The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD

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Paralysis.

Mayor's Office, NEWARK, N. J., Oct. 16, 1894.

Dear Sir: I have suffered for more than a year with paralysis of the right side. I had very little use of my right arm and could not put it to the back of my head. I tried several remedies, but found no permanent relief until I tried the Electropoise. I have been using it now for two months and it has improved me wonderfully. I cheerfully recommend it to all sufferers from paralysis.

Yours truly, JOS. W. STANSBURY.

Paralysis.

WINNEBAGO CITY, Minn., Aug. 24, 1894.

Gentlemen: We want to say that the Electropoise has done more for us than we dared hope for. Mother has so far recovered from a stroke of paralysis of two years' standing and which had made her almost helpless that she wants to help do the work about the house; we can't help rejoicing, and we want to recommend it to everybody for the grand work it has done for us.

Yours truly, WILLIAM SUTTON.

Partial Paralysis.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Nov. 17, 1892.

I will say now that the little child that we got the Electropoise especially for and on whom we have been using it with the lowest power, has steadily but surely improved from the start. This case is one of partial paralysis from birth, aggravated by measles. I have used it also for stiff-neck, headache, and other troubles with the most satisfactory results. Your very truly, A. A. NORTH.

Locomotor Ataxia.

WEST NEW BRIGHTON, S. I., June 30, 1896.

I had paralysis of the legs and all symptoms of Locomotor Ataxia. I came to your office in a carriage in March, 1895, and had to be carried inside. I could not stand without support and would fall over if eyes were shut. I got considerable relief in two weeks' use of the Electropoise; I can now walk a mile or two without unusual fatigue and can attend to my business well.

JAMES F. McMANUS.

Paralysis.

ATLANTA, GA., August 20, 1892.

Last May I was stricken with paralysis, which deprived me of the power of articulate speech; my right hand was also affected so I could not write intelligibly. After a short treatment with the Electropoise I was able to articulate so as to be understood, and have continued to improve ever since. REV. JOHN J. ROBINSON.

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

DR. RAINSFORD'S WARNING TO THE RICH.

STARTLING vigor characterizes the discussion over the use and abuse of wealth, occasioned by the Rev. Dr. W. S. Rainsford's warning against "ostentatious entertainments." Dr. Rainsford is pastor of St. George's (Prot. Epis.) Church, New York city, and his parishioners include J. Pierpont Morgan, Seth Low, and many other persons of great wealth and high standing in society. A large number of his parishioners were on the list of those invited to a *bal masque* to be given by Mr. and Mrs. Bradley-Martin at the Waldorf Hotel. Advance reports in the newspapers placed the cost of the function as likely to reach $250,000. Dr. Rainsford's advice to persons asking it became public property, and he authorized the following statement of his views:

"I believe that the giving of lavish entertainments by the rich is at this time politically, socially, and ethically unwise. I do not wish to be understood as condemning any persons or warning against any particular entertainment. I speak generally, and because I believe that those who have wealth should not at this time give the demagogs assistance in spreading the feeling of discontent among the poor.

"The political importance of New York is threatened by the attacks which have been made upon her in the West, and ostentatious entertainments and extravagance would furnish fresh texts for further attacks.

"I think the commanding political importance of New York has decreased in the last fifteen years, and I think the time has come for something to be done that will check, instead of increasing, this loss of influence. A large part of the country's population is crying out against existing social conditions, and ostentatious display here in the East would only widen the breach between this section and the West.

"Never were the lines between the two classes—those who have wealth and those who envy them—more distinctly drawn. No longer ago than November 3 more than 6,000,000 persons expressed their conviction that the existing conditions were unsatisfactory. Whether we like it or not, it is an incontrovertible fact that a large portion of our population is discontented, and does not hesitate to express its feelings. Extravagant entertainments draw attention to and accentuate existing social differences and to the widening chasm between the rich and poor.

"With want on every side, contributions to charitable societies decreasing, and applications for aid increasing, it is most unwise now to offer texts to social demagogs and political extremists by ostentatious display.

"I believe in social entertainments; but there should be a reasonable limit to display and a reasonable time chosen for it. Money is not the root of evil; the love of money is. That text is directed against the envious poor man as well as against the selfish rich man. To gratuitously increase discontent by accentuating the poverty of the unfortunate in such days as these is an action greatly to be deplored."

Dr. Rainsford, in an interview of later date than subjoined comments, insisted that people were not envious of great wealth, honestly made and properly employed, but that they were angered by the sudden, unscrupulous way in which some vast fortunes are made by legislation, franchises bought or stolen, etc. He referred also to the escape of the rich from proportionate taxation and the expenditure of American-made fortunes abroad. He added:

"I hold there is a reasonable element in the discontent, warning us of our large obligations and helping us to unite in strenuous effort to remedy our unnecessarily bad conditions. There is, on the other hand, a foolish and hurtful discontent that angrily and destructively wants to attempt the impossible. The first inspires the statesman. God send us such! The second fires the agitator. Yet even he can do us good, for let us never forget that the only really dangerous element in agitation is the injustice that lies at its root. Remove injustice and you cut the nerve of agitation and make the agitation unprofitable."

Newspapers in several of the large cities have published interviews on the subject with members of all classes of society as a feature of recent issues. Some of the differences of opinion are reflected in the editorials adjoined:

Society Must Recognize the Truth.—"It is a sober fact, which was evident in the last election, that a very large percentage of the people of this country are dissatisfied with the existing order of things and have some vague idea of a political change that would lead to a fresh distribution of wealth. They look upon those who have accumulated capital as possessing an unfair advantages, and some of them question whether anybody has a right to the exclusive possession of property at all. It is easy to say that all this is fallacious; but a priest who goes in and out among the poor in the slums of New York and knows the bitterness of their suffering can hardly refrain from uttering his warning when Dives flaunts his idle opulence in Lazarus's face.

"Nor can there be any doubt that what they see and read of the extravagant life of the idle rich, at home and abroad, accounts for much of the antagonism against the Eastern centers of wealth that found such frequent expression in the Bryan campaign. In this way a few thoughtless people can do an immense amount of mischief. They mean no harm and from their own point of view may be doing none. But the point of view of those who look on is altogether different and much less complacent. This is a truth that society must recognize. Not even in New York is society truly represented by the vulgar rich, but if it tolerates and encourages the vulgar rich, it allows them to appear as its representatives and it suffers the odium that belongs to them."—*The Times, Philadelphia.*

Alarmists and the Way of the World.—"While we can not deny to the Rev. Dr. Rainsford a perfect right to advise and lecture his congregation as his sense of duty prompts, we believe that in using a harmless enough ball as a text for a jeremiad upon the present attitudes toward each other of the 'classes and masses' he has done his utmost to precipitate the very conflict which he fain would avert. While seeming to preach moderation he has overstepped the bounds of prudence. If we stand upon

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the edge of the volcano he describes, it is not for him to push and shove.

"Were it possible for Dr. Rainsford or any other reformer to make the world over again, to satisfy the equation of the rich and the poor, to abolish all extravagant display and wretched poverty, then indeed would be his opportunity to discuss how far one might entertain one's friends or give way to mirth without being laid open to the charge of heartlessness. Unhappily, the millennium is not at hand, and, since the rich must always be rich and the poor poor, it seems forbidden to hold the rich up to reprobation and incite the poor to discontent.

"Suppose the rich are driven under cover by ill-advised alarmists, then the distribution of their wealth ceases. As it is, one man gives a great hospital, and the masons and builders, the carpenters and cabinet-makers, the hodcarriers and mortar-mixers, rejoice in that some share of the benefaction will come their way. A woman gives a great ball, and the caterers and florists, the modistes and mantua-makers, the cabmen and footmen, are glad because some of her bounty will pass into their pockets.

"It is the way of the world. Shut all the light and mirth and music and splendor out of it, and what a dreary place of resort it would become for masses and classes alike!"—*The Herald, New York.*

Missed the Point.—"*The Journal* applauds Dr. Rainsford's protest, but questions the propriety of the grounds upon which he bases it. He has narrowly missed taking a great, an historic position, but the miss, tho narrow, is complete. The bitter destitution and the unexampled luxury of the age are the results of common causes. Whatever calls attention to both at once, vividly, emphatically, will draw attention to the causes and perhaps aid in the discovery of a remedy. In this way the coming ball may prove of public service, and yet, if Dr. Rainsford has been correctly quoted, he opposes the festivity lest it perform that very service. He does not deplore the social conditions which make it immoral, but fears lest it may call attention to those social conditions and give demagogs—*i.e.*, those who hope the future has better things in store than the present—a text.

"On with the dance! Let joy be unconfined—that is, except to its proper sphere in our best society."—*The Journal, New York.*

"Dr. Rainsford seems to be of the opinion that, in order to convince the people that poverty prices, pauper wages, and unparalleled business depression are best for all, it is only necessary for the very rich to cease from making a lavish display of their resources. This shows very clearly that the Rev. Dr. Rainsford is not in touch with the people, knows nothing of their views, and has no sympathy whatever with their desires. And he is so far a politician of the slim-jim and side-whisker variety that his main purpose in criticizing the social 'functions' of the wealthy is to preserve the political supremacy of New York State."—*The Constitution, Atlanta.*

The Economic Argument.—"There is no economic defense of extravagance. The money put upon a masked ball gives employment to costumers and florists; and the same money spent on a model tenement-house for the poor gives employment also and to full the same extent. But the labor product in one case fades and falls in a night; while in the other case it ministers for years to the comfort and uplifting of men.

"The economic argument thus falls to the ground. Vanity and self-indulgence appeal to it in vain for justification. There may be a valid defense for these, and it is not the rich alone who seek and need such defense, but justification can not be found in this hoary-headed bit of cant that extravagance in self-indulgence feeds and helps the poor. The money of the wealthy is not so vexed for want of employment that it must needs expend itself in idle folly and display. But how many among those of even moderate means, looking to little things of the same nature as equally sinful with the great, are able to point fingers?"—*The Republican, Springfield.*

"It is nobody's business what a man does with his money so long as he behaves himself and respects the rights of others. The man who gives a ball that costs him $200,000 is entitled to the same freedom of action and the same security against intrusion from meddlers as the workingman who gives a little dinner-party that costs him $10. It is strictly his own affair, and nobody's business but his own. The difference of extravagance in the two cases is one of degree and not of kind."—*The Mail and Express, New York.*

"Envy feeds upon very many things, and probably the descriptions of the coming ball have excited not a little resentment in many minds. Still, so long as the hosts and guests who will be at the masquerade do not care to spend their money where it will do more good, and this is their own business, ought not the dissatisfied who covet their neighbors' jewels to be glad that these neighbors are not miserly! And upon this question there is divided sentiment, tho the majority, of course, believe that the rich who spend the most annoy the poor the least."—*The Journal, Boston.*

Justice the Remedy.—"Ruskin is not a recognized authority on political economy, but he expressed a truth of the science in a terse way when he said that wealth wasted in riotous or luxurious living did not put food in the mouths of the poor but took it out of their mouths. The word 'wasted' well expresses the disposition of wealth devoted to useless expenditure.

"Every dollar represents real wealth produced by labor, and when it is consumed in luxuries and non-productive service, private and public servants, it is taken out of the fund available for the necessities of labor in the production of new wealth. The stock of capital is reduced that much. If the extravagance of the few is a good thing, the extravagance of many would be a better thing, and it is easy to see the exhaustion of capital and the collapse of society in the general application of the principle.

"But to warn the wealthy against the ostentatious display of wealth because it excites envy and discontent is to whip the devil around the stump. The real evil is the unjust distribution of products which places vast wealth accumulation in the hands of the few. Ostentatious display and extravagance are mere natural concomitants of this fundamental wrong. . . .

"The remedy does not lie in charity, altho that is a necessary expedient, or in assumed humility and economy, but in justice. Fair adjustment of the conditions of industry, with just distribution of earnings, would remove not only the incitement to disorder but the underlying cause of discontent."—*The Republic, St. Louis.*

AMERICAN CONSERVATISM THROUGH ENGLISH EYES.

AN interesting view of what is styled "the saving grace of America," enabling her "to carry through an experiment in government which has been the wonder as well as the admiration of the civilized world," appears in the London *National Review* for January, under a new department of staff correspondence headed, "The Month in America." The survival of our cumbersome electoral system and the short session of a Congress whose successors have been elected by popular vote, is attributed solely to the love of governmental tradition. This clinging to institutions of the past leads the writer to assert that there is a side of the American character but little known or understood by Europe and especially by Englishmen. We quote further:

"It is not appreciated that there is a great conservative force in this country which acts as the balance-wheel to the body politic at every emergency. A sociological study of the American race presents a most remarkable problem. It is the most emotional of all the modern white races. Nor is this surprising when one considers the causes which have brought this about. Here were a people who had to battle for their existence from the very start; who, as a mere handful of colonists, had to fight Indians and wild beasts and nature in her most savage moods, who by sheer determination and courage conquered a continent so vast that no man could dream of its possibilities, and who won their own freedom. This resistless energy, this feverish desire always to be pushing ahead, this inborn passion to meet obstacles only to overcome them, to grapple with problems which the rest of the world sedulously avoided, made them high-strung, quick-witted, nervous, emotional. The average American rather takes pride that the race is nervous, because that is synonymous with alertness. He would resent the charge of being emotional, and he does not realize that he is, but the fact remains all the same. Due to what he is, and has done, the development of the race has made an intensely patriotic, self-reliant, and assured people, always conscious of their own power, which they naturally overestimate. Yet with it all there is this strain of conservatism, and like some

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of our most cherished virtues we only appreciate it when a great emergency brings it to the surface. Europe watched Mr. Blaine's marvelous antics for years, thinking always that he was playing to the gallery, and wondering how long the dangerous game could be continued without some of the players getting hurt. But, thoroughly as Mr. Blaine understood the temper of the great masses, he ignored the remnant of conservatism which was to prove his undoing. For years the country followed him, superbly blind to consequences, contemptuous of the opinion of the world. This was not the confidence of the bully, serene in his strength and the weakness of his victim. It was rather the reckless audacity of the youngster of matchless courage and superabundant vitality, who, never having known defeat, is ready to stand up before all comers, unable to conceive even that he may at last meet an adversary stronger and more resolute than himself. It was the conservatives who defeated Mr. Blaine. They were slow to move, as conservatism always is, but the Mugwump movement in Massachusetts voiced the sentiment. It took form, it spread, it accomplished its purpose. It was the conservatives who stood by Mr. Lincoln and made it possible for him to carry through his great work and preserve the nation. And, again, in this year, we have once more seen conservatism assert itself. Mr. Bryan was not defeated by Republicans or Democrats. He was defeated by men of all parties and all classes allying themselves together because they feared he proposed a remedy too radical.

"In considering American policies the conservative factor should be estimated at its proper value. One must always remember that the first ebullition is an emotional one, that the wave of, one might almost call it, hysteria sweeps over the country like a fire on the stunted and withered grass of a western prairie, and like the fire, it must be allowed to burn itself out before it can be extinguished. But when the conflagration of the plains approaches too close to the civilization of the cities and endangers them, the resources of modern society are ath and to check it and stamp it out. When one of these social or political waves reaches the danger-point the force of conservatism acts as the check."

THE PACIFIC RAILWAY PROBLEM.

THE Government has a railway problem on its hands in the shape of effecting a settlement of the indebtedness of the Pacific roads. The problem has engaged congressional attention again and again, but it has become acute by reason of the maturing of bonds issued by the Government in aid of the Union Pacific lines. After an exhaustive debate the House of Representatives (January 11), by a decisive majority of 66 votes, refused to pass what is know as the Powers refunding bill, which proposed to issue long-term bonds extending terms of settlement over a period of about eighty years. Thereupon foreclosure proceedings were instituted in the courts as a means of securing to the Government the value of its mortgage, which is a second lien upon property of the road.

Foreclosure proceedings will produce two alternatives: Shall the Government accept a bid from parties willing to purchase the road at foreclosure sale or shall the Government itself take the road?

With the first alternative in view, the Attorney-General announces that he begins foreclosure proceedings, having come to an agreement with a reorganization committee of capitalists to the effect that a minimum bid shall be guaranteed by them. The right of the Attorney-General to enter into such an agreement is, of course, questioned by the opponents of this method of settlement. Bills to create a commission, which shall include the Attorney-General with the secretaries of the Treasury and the Interior, and to which power shall be given to settle the whole problem, are being pushed in both Houses.

Advocates of a sale to private parties dwell upon alleged evils of government ownership thus to be avoided, asserting that the Government will do well to get out of the railroah business with comparatively small loss. There is a first lien of over $60,000,000 to pay, the Government's mortgage does not cover the completed line, and it could not be successfully operated with the opposition of private branches and competitors, they say. On the other hand it is claimed that no better opportunity to try government ownership could be offered, that there is no necessity for letting the property go to private parties at a loss, that the present operation of the road under a receivership is evidence of the practicability of governmental operation, and that on a bas's of actual value the Government will profit and the people, in the territory served by the road, will, at the same time, escape the burdens levied by overcapitalization at the hands of private parties.

Foreclosure proceedings will extend over some time, and it is by no means certain what the present Congress will do beyond the killing of the funding bill. We quote newspapers on a large number of the phases of the interesting problem:

The Attorney-General's Statement.—"Upon the defeat of the funding bill in the House, the President directed the Attorney-General to commence foreclosure proceedings against the Union Pacific Railway Company, first making the best arrangements obtainable for the protection of the Government's interests. Following the lines indicated in his last report, the Attorney-General began negotiations with the reorganization committee. On Thursday, January 21, an agreement was made which will result in immediate steps to foreclose. The chief subject of the negotiations was the protection of the Government against the risk of sacrifice of its claim by a sale at a price which would leave nothing substantial after paying prior liens. This protection is now assured by a guaranty that the Government shall receive on its lien on the aided portions of the Union Pacific and Kansas Pacific lines, including the sinking fund, not less than $45,754,000. The sale will be public, so that the Government will receive the benefit of any higher bids up to the full amount of its claim, principal and interest. The sum of four and a half million dollars cash was on Thursday deposited with the United States Trust Company of New York by Gen. Louis Fitzgerald, chairman of the committee, as security, according to the terms of the agreement. The committee agree to bid par for the sinking fund, if it is desired to sell it at any time before the foreclosure sale.

"Bills in equity have been prepared, signed by the Attorney-General and Hon. George Hoadley, special counsel, and forwarded to St. Louis, where they will on Friday, January 22, be presented to Judge Sanborn, who has jurisdiction in all the districts, and whose consent to their filing is necessary because the receivers in charge of the property are made parties defendant. They are original bills, and not cross bills, in the pending suits.

"Whether they will proceed as independent bills or be ordered to stand as cross bills in the pending suits will be determined by the judge, but in either event the result will be practically the same, viz., the sale of the property under the Government's lien as well as under that of the first mortgage. The bills will be filed

THEY'RE BAKING IT AT CLEVELAND THIS WEEK.
—*The Journal, Chicago.*

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in the districts of Iowa, Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah. Separate bills for the foreclosure of the lien on the Kansas Pacific are in course of preparation. These will be filed in Missouri and Kansas.

"The proposed arrangement was submitted to the government directors before it was closed. They all recommended its adoption. Their general opinion was thus expressed:

"'The Government can not prudently longer defer the settlement of this matter. The Union Pacific system has already been much curtailed and its revenues have been permanently reduced. Reorganizations of allied and neighboring properties have either been accomplished or are in train for early consummation, and the breaking up of the entire Union Pacific system has been and is steadily progressing. It therefore seems to us inexpedient, if not dangerous, to neglect this opportunity of realizing the sum offered and thus expose the Government to a continuous depreciation of its security.'

"It is believed that there will be higher bids; but if not, an estimate shows that, crediting amounts already received from the company, the Government will at least realize a sum equivalent to the principal of the subsidy bonds, with interest at about 3⅓ per cent. from their issue to the average date of their maturity, or about 3.45 per cent. from date of issue to January 1, 1897.

"The minimum of $45,754,000 guaranteed the Government is in cash, so that all relations with the property will terminate upon the confirmation of the foreclosure sale.

"The course to be pursued with respect to the Central Pacific has not yet been determined."—*Attorney-General Harmon to the Press Associations, January 22.*

The Debt and Proposed Settlement.—"The statement of the Treasury Department at the beginning of the present year shows that the total amount of bonds outstanding against the Union Pacific and Kansas Pacific railroads, which are both included in the settlement agreed upon, is $33,539,512. The United States had paid interest on these bonds, in excess of the amounts repaid by the companies in transportation service or by cash payments out of net earnings, to the sum of $36,442,676, making a total gross indebtedness to the United States of $69,982,188. From this must be deducted the sinking fund in the United States Treasury, which on the first of the present year was $17,062,663. The net claim on the two companies by the United States was, therefore, at the beginning of the year $52,919,525.

"All of this sum was not strictly due, because more than half the amount of the bonds had not matured. The total amount of principal past due or maturing January 1, 1897, was $13,040,000. On the 1st of January, 1898, there will fall due $17,342,512, and on the 1st of January, 1899, the remainder, $3,157,000, will mature. The interest paid by the United States on all the principal is 6 per cent., and that will have to be paid on $20,499,512 until the maturity of the bonds.

"By the arrangement made the roads are to be put up for sale and the trustees for the reorganization agree to bid in cash the face value of all the bonds issued and about 3⅓ per cent. annual interest from their issue to the average date of their maturity, the lump sum of the bid being $45,754,000. That is to be the minimum amount, and in security a cash deposit of $4,500,000 has been made by the reorganization committee. As the sale is to be an open one there is possibility of a higher bid, of which the Government will get the full benefit. The government representatives, however, regard the settlement as an advantageous one. Out of the lump sum received in cash the Government will have to meet the unmatured bonds as they fall due and pay the 6-per-cent. interest on them until maturity. The net loss to the Government on the entire transaction will be in the neighborhood of $7,000,000.

"The Central Pacific and Western Pacific companies' debt to the Government is not included in this arrangement. The principal of the debt of these companies is $27,855,680, the interest paid to the beginning of this year, after deducting repayments by the companies, $38,100,889. Deducting the amount in the sinking fund to the credit of the Central Pacific the net obligation of the companies to the Government at the beginning of the present year was $58,942,104."—*The Plain Dealer, Cleveland.*

Government Should be Saved from Uncertainties of Ownership.—"The liens upon the property prior to the government mortgages amount to about $64,000,000. If no purchaser can be found who is willing to pay more than that sum for the roads the Government must sacrifice its claim or become the purchaser of the roads itself. The loss of a very large amount of money or government ownership and operation of the roads is the apparent alternative which confronts the country, unless the bill providing for a commission to settle the controversy be passed.

"The loss of the Government's claim, or the assumption of government ownership, would be a national misfortune. While Populistic platforms have demanded that the Government shall engage in the railroad business the great body of the people believe that this is not one of the legitimate functions of Government. Foreclosure proceedings will doubtless be characterized by the leisurely deliberation with which great railway properties are sold under legal process, and before the day of sale is reached it is possible that some reasonable scheme for the protection of the Government may be adopted by Congress. Chairman Powers, of the Pacific railroads committee, is reported as saying that a commission of not over five members, to be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, might settle the whole matter sooner than it would be settled by Congress. If, however, a majority of the House adhere to the opinion which they entertain at present, that the Government can save its lien under foreclosure, the commission proposition will fail. There ought to be enough statesmanship in Congress to save the Government from entering upon the uncertainties of government ownership of the roads."—*The Ledger, Philadelphia.*

A Crowning Mercy to Get Anything.—"This bid is already guaranteed, and while it does not make the Government whole for the money advanced it pays the original sum, with interest from the date of the subsidy bonds at the rate of about 3½ per cent. The Government has paid six, so that the loss will be 2½ per cent. of the interest paid. The crowning mercy is that we get anything, while it is just cause for exultation that all our relations with the property will be terminated. If we can close out our interest in the Central Pacific on terms as good we will do very well.

"Our experience with these railroads ought to be sufficient warning to the people that Uncle Sam is not a good business man, and that whenever he goes outside the line of his duties he gets the worst of it. His wicked partners invariably pluck him. The fact is, our Government is the very worst in the world for carrying on paternalistic enterprises or entering upon business partnerships with private individuals. Other nations have a responsible head, and can act in emergencies with promptness and efficiency. We have three heads, each independent of the other, and on questions not involving party fealty all inclined to show their independence."—*The Times-Herald, Chicago.*

Congress Should Interfere.—"The Attorney-General of the United States has instituted proceedings in foreclosure by which the Government's claim against the Union Pacific Railroad is to be sold to a New York syndicate at 65 per cent. of its face. This bargain, quietly entered into by the Executive authority at Washington, involves a loss to the Government and the people of over $23,000,000. Is this so small a sum that it may be lightly tossed away?

"A halt must be called on this contemplated step. The time has come and the opportunity is presented for the Government to insist upon every dollar nominated in the subsidy bonds. The colossal frauds which distinguished the building and early operation of the road have at last effected their perfect work upon the interests of innocent stockholders, and exposed the practical worthlessness of those claims. The door has thus been closed to considerations of leniency on their account, and it remains for the Government to proceed to collect its due with unsparing hand.

"To say that the Government's second mortgage is not worth more than 65 per cent. of its face is to say what nobody can prove to be true. It has been said over and over again in the debates on the funding bills that the mortgage was not worth a dollar—that the prior lien consumed the whole value of the mortgaged property. But here already is a syndicate in the field placing a value of $45,700,000 on the second mortgage claim, and with no competing bids in sight or likely to come in sight to force its figure to the highest point.

"The Executive authority has been ill-advised. It appears to be more in fear of escaping the dreadful possibility of government acquisition of the property than interested in recovering the full amount of the people's claim. And the Huntington and transcontinental interest note the fact and are taking advantage of it.

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Congress should intervene to prevent the sacrifice of $23,000,000 of the public money; and if worse comes to worst the Government can take the road and make the experiment in public operation, which must ultimately be made to satisfy a growing demand among the people."—*The Republican, Springfield, Mass.*

The First Cost of Government Ownership.—"By consolidation of various roads, the bond-aided line of the Union Pacific, about 1,400 miles in length, is part of the Union Pacific 'system' of 8,000 miles. The government mortgage, and a second mortgage at that, is on the main line only from Omaha to a point five miles west of Ogden, and on the Kansas Pacific division to a point 394 miles west of Kansas City. It does not include the terminals at Omaha, Council Bluffs, Kansas City, and Ogden. In the case of the Central Pacific, which, as now constituted, embraces a system of 1,360 miles, the Government has a second lien on but 860 miles, of which less than 200 miles is within the State of California, and of which no part has a connection at San Francisco. The greater part of the Central Pacific line on which the Government has a second mortgage runs through the desert lands of Utah and Nevada, 'where for a distance of 500 miles there is not a single habitation and not a particle of local traffic.' On the expert testimony of Mr. H. A. Taylor, a former commissioner of railroads, 'taking July 1, 1897, as the date of average maturity of the subsidy bonds, and assuming that the companies, under existing laws, will pay up to that date the same amounts they paid between 1887 and 1892 (which, of course, they have not done), the cost on July 1, 1897, of the roads would closely approximate the sum of $186,000,000. This would be an average of $77,716 per mile for all of the aided roads on which the Government can foreclose,' and would merely be the first instalment of that very extensive transaction needed to set the Government fairly up in the business of running a railroad from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean. It is emphatically not a transaction in which the people of the United States have any disposition to engage."—*The Journal of Commerce, New York.*

Pacific Railroad Magnates' Vicious Operations.—"The operations of the Pacific Railroad magnates have been so completely exposed that every one may know what to expect of them. Under the acts of 1862 and 1864 subsidies were granted to the Union and Central Pacific roads of large quantities of land, and of government bonds at rates from $16,000 a mile in the level country to $48,000 a mile in the mountain country. The Government originally had first mortgage security for its bond subsidies, which amounted to about $65,000,000, but the railroad people induced Congress to postpone its lien to another one of equal amount. The construction of the roads was done under Crédit Mobilier methods, which have been fully exposed, and which form almost the worst scandals known in the history of the country. The owners accumulated vast fortunes by making outrageous contracts with themselves. They systematially defaulted the interest on the Government's bonds, and have continuously endeavored to get rid of the government obligation altogether. Their methods have been forced on the attention of the public in California, in their securing a charter from the last Kentucky legislature, in the attempted Santa Monica harbor job in the last Congress and in other ways. They meet exposure by assaults on those who endeavor to prevent further wrong-doing. . . . It is time for the American people to assert their independence of such domination."—*The Sentinel, Indianapolis.*

Equivalent for Sacrifices.—"The strict sense of justice of the people may be offended by any proposition to settle the difficulty that seems to ease the way for the roads; the practical business sense must approve of any arrangement that will save the government interests and prevent conditions even worse than the present ones. If the matter is to be viewed from a sentimental standpoint, then there should also be remembered that the construction of the Pacific roads was an enterprise of the greatest national importance. Not only did they open the immense Western territories to settlement, paying in this indirect way many times the amount of the subsidies, but their construction also had a great military value and a wholesome political effect. The great enterprise was called into life in 1862, when the Southern States were in rebellion against the Union and when the danger was imminent that the Pacific States would join them. There is no doubt that the proposition to build an iron highway across the plains and mountains to unite and tie together the remote Eastern and Western parts of the country had much to do with obviating the danger. If the United States has brought great sacrifices for these roads, it has not been without equivalent."—*The Hawkeye, Burlington, Iowa.*

Should be Operated on Actual Value Basis.—"The only income of the roads must be their receipts for transportation of passengers and freight, and if the present inflated capitalization is maintained the transportation charges must be kept high enough for fifty years to come to pay not only operating expenses but also interest and sinking fund for all bonded obligations. If the patrons must bear this burden then the lower the rate of interest exacted the better it would be for them. But if the whole burden could be lifted at once a great obstacle to the expansion of the West would be removed. And the advantages that would accrue to the entire country from the development of hitherto neglected resources would alone more than counterbalance any loss within a very few years. . . . Whatever agreement the Government may enter into in settlement of its claims, it owes it to the patrons of the Pacific roads to insist as a fundamental condition that the lines be operated on an actual value basis and additional stock and bonds be issued only to represent additional capital actually invested."—*The Bee, Omaha, Nebr.*

"The net earnings of the Central Pacific, as shown by its reports, have averaged $5,000,000 per annum during the past five years, while those of the Union Pacific last year were only about $300,000 less. The Central Pacific Company is leased to the Southern Pacific, a company different in name but identical in interest. The lease is a subterfuge which the Huntington crowd have resorted to in order to depreciate the value of the Central Pacific line by diverting its traffic to another line owned by them. The net earnings of the two roads are stated to be about $9,000,000 a year, which would be sufficient to pay 3½ per cent. interest to the Government as well as the interest on all other mortgaged indebtdedness and still leave something for a sinking fund. . . . Both public sentiment and justice are united in the demand that the Government shall exact from the Pacific railroad barons a settlement as fair and full as the circumstances will permit."—*The News, Baltimore.*

LEGISLATIVE ASPECTS OF THE DRINK PROBLEM.

A PRELIMINARY report of an investigation into the workings of liquor laws in various States is contributed to the February *Atlantic* by President Charles W. Eliot of Harvard. President Eliot, President Seth Low of Columbia University, and James C. Carter, of New York, are members of a self-constituted Committee of Fifty which has taken up the study of different aspects of the drink problem. Sub-committees to investigate the physiological, the legislative, the economic, and the ethical aspects have been appointed. The sub-committee on legislative aspects, composed of the three gentlemen above named, employed Dr. Frederic H. Wines, of Springfield, Ill., and John Koren, of Boston, to do the work of investigating in Maine, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Iowa, Missouri, Ohio, and Indiana. From the data collected by these gentlemen (to be published in detail soon) President Eliot reports conclusions regarding prohibition, state control, license, and tax systems of dealing with the liquor traffic. Of Prohibition, President Eliot writes:

"Prohibitory legislation has succeeded in abolishing and preventing the manufacture on a large scale of distilled and malt liquors within the areas covered by it. In districts where public sentiment has been strongly in its favor it has made it hard to obtain intoxicants, thereby removing temptation from the young and from persons disposed to alcoholic excesses. In pursuing its main object—which is to make the manufacture and sale of intoxicants impossible, or disreputable if possible—it has incidentally promoted the invention and adoption of many useful restrictions on the liquor traffic.

"But prohibitory legislation has failed to exclude intoxicants completely even from districts where public sentiment has been favorable. In districts where public sentiment has been adverse or strongly divided, the traffic in alcoholic beverages has been sometimes repressed or harassed, but never exterminated or rendered unprofitable. In Maine and Iowa, there have always been counties and municipalities in complete and successful rebellion against the law. The incidental difficulties created by the United States revenue laws, the industrial and medicinal demand for

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alcohol, and the freedom of interstate commerce have never been overcome. Prohibition has, of course, failed to subdue the drinking passion, which will forever prompt resistance to all restrictive legislation.

"There have been concomitant evils of prohibitory legislation. The efforts to enforce it during forty years past have had some unlooked-for effects on public respect for courts, judicial procedure, oaths, and law in general, and for officers of the law, legislators, and public servants. The public have seen law defied, a whole generation of habitual law-breakers schooled in evasion and shamelessness, courts ineffective through fluctuations of policy, delays, perjuries, negligences, and other miscarriages of justice, officers of the law double-faced and mercenary, legislators timid and insincere, candidates for office hypocritical and truckling, and office-holders unfaithful to pledges and to reasonable public expectation. Through an agitation which has always had a moral end, these immoralities have been developed and made conspicuous. The liquor traffic, being very profitable, has been able, when attacked by prohibitory legislation, to pay fines, bribes, hush-money, and assessments for political purposes to large amounts. This money has tended to corrupt the lower courts, the police administration, political organizations, and even the electorate itself. . . . All legislation intended to put restrictions on the liquor traffic, except perhaps the simple tax, is more or less liable to these objections; but the prohibitory legislation is the worst of all in these respects, because it stimulates to the utmost the resistance of the liquor-dealers and their supporters.

"Of course there are disputed effects of efforts at prohibition. Whether it has or has not reduced the consumption of intoxicants and diminished drunkenness is a matter of opinion, and opinions differ widely. No demonstration on either of these points has been reached or is now attainable after more than forty years of observation and experience."

"The main advantage of local option," reports President Eliot, "is that the same public opinion which determines the question of license or no license is at the back of all the local officials who administer the system decided on." He adds that the Missouri provisions seem to be the completest and justest of all:

"In Missouri a vote may be taken at any time (but not within sixty days of any state or municipal election) on demand of one tenth of the qualified electors, town or city voters having no county vote, and *vice versa*, and the vote being taken not oftener than once in four years; but in counties or municipalities which have voted for license, no saloon can be licensed unless the majority of the property-holders in the block or square in which the saloon is to be situated sign a petition that the license be issued."

Dr. Eliot's report appears to find a taxing system preferable to the license system. He reports a general agreement that licenses should be limited to one year. The Massachusetts limitation of the number of licenses to the population (1 license to 1,000 inhabitants, except in Boston where 1 may be issued for every 500), and restrictions in Missouri (no license within 500 feet of a public park) and in Massachusetts (no license within 400 feet of a schoolhouse), are commended. The courts as licensing authorities, especially where judgeships are elective, are adjudged objectionable on account of the liability to suspicion of yielding to improper influences. A recent Massachusetts law vesting in the mayor of any city the appointment of three license commissioners, each to serve six years, one retiring every second year, is said to provide "a tolerably stable and independent board, without violating the principle of local self-government." The report declares that every licensing authority should have power to revoke a license promptly and should always have discretion to withhold a license. The report further says:

"There are also grave inherent objections to the whole license system, when resting on the discretion of commissioners, which the experience of these eight States can not be said to remove. No other element connected with a license does so much to throw the liquor traffic into politics. It compels the traffic to be in politics for self-protection. It makes of every licensing board a powerful political engine. A tax law avoids this result, and is so far an improvement. The Ohio law is a case in point."

Under all sorts of liquor laws it has been found that there is great difficulty in getting the courts to deal effectively and promptly with liquor cases. The report states that experience shows that the penalty of imprisonment prevents the obtaining of convictions in liquor cases. Laws for the protection of informers have only been effective in some instances. Interstate transportation of liquor has been the cause of much unsuccessful state legislation.

It is pointed out that tables of arrests for drunkenness may or may not be satisfactory evidence of the effect of certain kinds of legislation, owing to different bases on which they are compiled and because of local conditions of administration, etc.

The report states that there is at present no American legislation which effects the desirable elimination of private profits from the liquor business. It, however, credits the South Carolina dispensary law with a diminution of public drunkenness, and says of it further:

"The South Carolina dispensary law well illustrates the theoretical difficulties which beset liquor legislation. It proposes to maintain a highly profitable state monopoly of the sale of intoxicants. The revenue purpose is extremely offensive to prohibitionists; yet this motive appears plainly in the practical administration of the law, as well as in its theoretical purpose. Thus, for example, the state dispensers sell the cheapest kinds of distilled liquor, because it is more profitable to sell that liquor than any other, the tastes and capacities of their customers being considered. Again, the law does not prohibit the manufacture of distilled, malt, or vinous liquors, but, on the contrary, in some respects encourages those manufactures within the State. The fundamental conception of the law is distinctly antagonistic to the theory that liquor-selling is sinful or unholy; for the State itself assumes the whole of that business and takes its profits. Altho supported by Prohibitionists at the time of its enactment, it flies in the face of all logical prohibitory theory. It has been enforced with a remarkable degree of success, but at great cost of political and social antagonisms."

The report concludes that almost every sort of liquor legislation creates some specific evil in politics. "The traffic being attacked by legislation tries to protect itself by controlling municipal and state legislators." High-paid offices created by liquor legislation become objects of political contention, and the multitude of offices created to execute the liquor laws furnishes the means of building up a political machine. The report also deplores a tendency to violate local self-government by charging the state constabulary with executing liquor laws, a practise which has been effective to some extent in several States.

Regarding the success of liquor legislation in promoting temperance, the report says:

"It can not be positively affirmed that any one kind of liquor legislation has been more successful than another in promoting real temperance. Legislation as a cause of improvement can rarely be separated from other possible causes. The influences of race or nationality are apparently more important than legislation. That law is best which is best administered. Even when external improvements have unquestionably been effected by new legislation, it often remains doubtful, or at least not demonstrable, whether or not the visible improvements have been accompanied by a diminution in the amount of drinking. Thus, a reduction in the number of saloons in proportion to the population undoubtedly promotes order, quiet, and outward decency; but it is not certain that the surviving saloons sell less liquor in total than the previous more numerous saloons. Again, it is often said that restrictions on drinking at public bars tend to increase drinking at home or in private, and there is probably truth in this allegation; but comparative statistics of public and private consumption are not attainable, so that it is impossible to hold a well-grounded opinion on this point. The wise course for the community at large is to strive after all external, visible improvements, even if it be impossible to prove that internal, fundamental improvement accompanies them."

ALLEGED DISTORTION IN AMERICAN HISTORIES.

TWO complaints of the distortion of history as taught in schools of the United States have been recently made, one by Samuel Smith, a member of the British Parliament, the other by the New York *Sun*. The former blames the histories for being the cause of much of the hostile feeling entertained in this country against Great Britain; the latter criticizes the movement

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in the old Confederate States to exclude all text-books on American history except those written by Southern authors.

Mr. Smith's strictures occur in a magazine article entitled "America Revisited," which has been published in pamphlet form. He discovered on the part of a great many Americans a true affection for the old country, but he found also unfriendly Irish and German elements and inflammable mixed nationalities, and he does not underestimate the sensitiveness of Americans regarding the "Monroe doctrine." He says:

"There is, unfortunately, one cause which underlies much of this irritation. The history books taught in the public schools too often give the children of America the impression that the main events in human history are the American War of Independence, concluded in 1783, and the war with Great Britain of 1812–14. It need not be added that Great Britain appears in those histories always in the wrong, and the Americans always right. There is not pains taken to show that the best men in England protested against the policy of George III. and Lord North, and that the British nation to-day esteems George Washington as much as do the people of America. It is not explained that the England of last century was governed by the aristocracy, and that the England of to-day repudiates the fatal policy of the eighteenth century as much as do the citizens of the United States. These truths gradually become clear to all educated Americans, especially to those who visit Europe. But the children of the ignorant foreign population get no correcting education afterward. The newspapers they read perpetuate these prejudices, and there is consequently created a permanent mass of ill-feeling against Great Britain. I spoke of this to several Americans, who felt the force of it, and I think the time has come when this subject might be approached by the best men and women of the United States as they approached the subject of arbitration. It must be apparent to all right-thinking people that it is unchristian to sow seeds of enmity in the minds of the young against other nations, especially when closely allied in blood and religion. And I am in hopes that the churches in America will before long take this view themselves."

The Sun, January 25, devotes about two columns to "American History Distorted for Southern Use," from which we quote in part:

"For several years past there has been a significant movement in the old Confederate States to inculcate in their schools a spirit of sectional hostility to the States which saved the Union from disruption.

"This movement has been in charge of the Confederate Veterans' Associations more especially, and the means by which its purpose is to be accomplished is the exclusion from the schools of all text-books of American history written by Northern authors, and the substitution of histories by Southern authors only. About two years ago the United Confederate Veterans' Historical Committee unanimously adopted a report which described the use of our standard school histories to be an evil, 'active steps for the correction' of which should be taken. It accordingly prepared a list of eleven histories, and recommended them 'without hesitation' as 'suitable for present if not permanent use' in Southern schools and families, to replace the 'objectionable books.' Others of the same character were announced as in preparation.

"We have taken the pains to procure and examine carefully these Southern histories of our common country, written for the avowed purpose of giving a peculiar mold to the sentiment of the children of the States which tried unsuccessfully to break up the American Union. Our first observation is that they treat the history of the Republic by States rather than as a whole. Next, they all distinguish sharply between 'Southerners' and 'Northerners,' as if they were two distinct peoples, attributing the Civil War to the aggressions of the 'Northerners' on the 'Southerners.' The march of the Union troops to enforce Federal authority and rescue Federal property from would-be secessionists is spoken of as an 'invasion.' . . .

"Here are a few examples of this bitter Southern sentiment taken at random from the different books:

"'That the people of the North should so soon become horrified at an institution [slavery] which they themselves once countenanced, and allow their opposition to it to assume the character of a fanatical hatred, would indeed be a very problematical question of itself alone; but when one remembers the innate intolerance of the people—narrow and lacking in breadth of judgment and liberality of opinion, together with the old nature nurtured in the mother country and transplanted to American soil, and which did not change nor alter itself with its changed surroundings and conditions—then the question is no longer a problem. . . . This American Puritan could not appreciate that broad, liberal, free civilization that was developing the South, for it seemed to be rich where his was poor. Its prosperity was a marvel and a wonder to him; the very gladness of its life contrasted sharply with his own, which a narrow creed had settled into such hard places.'"

"'The natural and necessary product of a noble civilization is a noble and a princely manhood. Consequently the slaveholding States, by sheer force of a superior intellectuality, dominated the National Government and affected the character of all legislation by the impress of their masterly minds. The inevitable effect of this upon the North was to create and to foster that feeling of jealousy that naturally existed, to add fuel to the fires of slavery agitation, and to widen sectional lines.'"

"'Consequently the Southern people would have indeed been traitors to all history had they done otherwise under the circumstances'" [in trying to secede].

"'After a while the politicians [Northern] thought it wise and prudent to take advantage of the Abolitionist doctrine of "the sin of slavery," and engrafted it into their creeds and platforms as a popular catchword to increase the opposition to the South, which was aggravated by a growing jealousy of her civilization and prosperity.'"

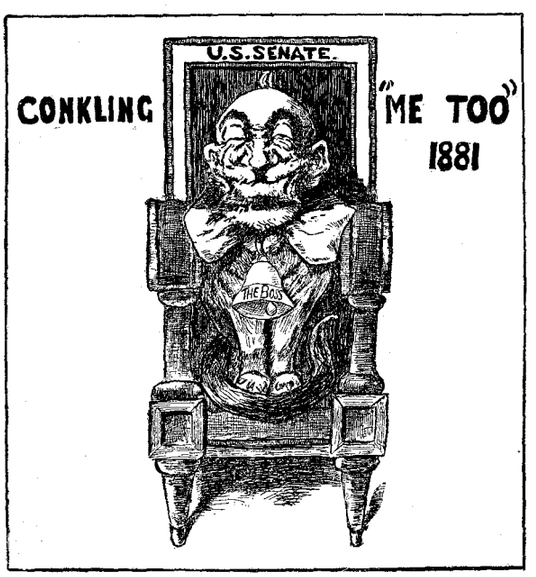
"'It was bitter [for the Northeners] to confess that the Southern leaders were better generals, and the Confederate armies, tho so much smaller and badly equipped, better soldiers than the hosts they so often defeated.'"

"'Thus ended the long and arduous struggle which the South made for the rights which she had under the Constitution, and in this struggle those who wore the gray and stepped to the inspiring strains of "Dixie," under the banner of the Southern cross decked with its stars, have made their uniform a symbol of the sublimest courage of the soldier and the truest devotion of the patriot.'"

"We have given enough of these quotations to show the purpose of these so-called American histories. It is to justify the 'lost cause'; and to that end indisputable facts and records are perverted and falsified. This partizan bias is made manifest from the very beginning, and it continues throughout. Instead of being simple narratives of facts, as such text-books should be, they are partizan pleas in defense of the secession movement, whose animus is betrayed in the frequent expression of mere opinions and prejudices. They are written to make out a case, not to instruct American children in the actual history of their country. Thus they are wholly unlike the text-books of American history in general use in our schools, from which all mere partizanship, unless it be purely American, is carefully excluded. The offenses against historical truth and the historical spirit are so constant and so flagrant that it would be a waste of words to point them out particularly, and correct the obvious misstatements. . . .

"We shall not undertake to follow these Southern accounts of the Civil War. They are all written from the Southern point of view peculiarly, and frequently are colored with bitter Southern prejudice, sometimes with feminine spitefulness. The Union armies are described as 'ruthless' in their devastating progress, and the usual and necessary course of war as pursued by them is pictured in a way to provoke a revengeful spirit in Southern youth.

"Naturally this spirit of resentment lingers among the generation in the South which was engaged in the long and fierce conflict, but, of course, it is wholly incompatible with the judicial and impartial temper which should control the historian. Its manifestation in these books is only important as indicating a desire to perpetuate feelings of animosity which are important, except so far as they may bring injury to the old Confederate States by segregating them in sentiment from the rest of the Union, and thus hindering their progress in prosperity and civilization. Reasonable men in those States can not regard such an attempt to isolate the South with other feelings than disapproval."



"AND THE CAT CAME BACK."
—*The Evening Telegram, New York.*

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INCREASE OF CITY POWER IN CONGRESS.

AN increase of city members in the new Congress is noted as a significant result of the late election. The Washington correspondent of the New York *Sun* brings out some facts regarding city representation, considered to be "usually of a conservative and restraining character." Whether the result be viewed wholly as a result of the increase of voting population in cities, or due in no small degree to the character of the issues involved, these are the facts according to *The Sun's* correspondent:

"In the Fifty-fourth Congress New York has 9 representatives in the House, Chicago 7, Philadelphia 5, Brooklyn 5, St. Louis 3, Boston 2, Baltimore 2, San Francisco 2, Cincinnati 2, Cleveland 2, Buffalo 2, New Orleans 2, Pittsburg 1, Detroit 2—one in the Senate and one in the House; Milwaukee 2, and Louisville, St. Paul, and Minneapolis 1 each.

"In the next Congress, tho there has been no redivision of districts anywhere, the representation of the cities, with the exception of New York, has been increased, or at least of the cities generally. The representation of New York remains numerically, as heretofore, tho the Senator-elect, Thomas C. Platt, is actually a resident of that city, as was William M. Evarts, the Republican succeeded by Senator Hill in 1891. Chicago will have 8 representatives, 1 in the Senate and 7 in the House. Philadelphia will have 6 representatives, 1 in the Senate and 5 in the House. Boston will have in the House 3 members instead of 2, and Cincinnati will have 3 representatives instead of 2, 1 in the Senate and 2 in the House. Indianapolis, which has 1 representative only now, will have 3 in the next Congress. St. Louis will have 3 representatives, San Francisco 2, Brooklyn 5, Newark 2, New Orleans 3 instead of 2, Omaha 2, Nashville 2, Denver 2, Baltimore 2, and Galveston and Richmond 1 each.

"The next Senate particularly will contain a larger proportion of 'city men' and a smaller proportion of statesmen from the rural districts than any previous Senate for many years. When Benjamin Harrison, the last Republican President, began his administration in March, 1889, the Fifty-first Senate, over which Levi P. Morton presided, contained no representative of any one of these large cities, or rather no resident of either one of them: Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Brooklyn, Baltimore, St. Louis, Louisville, Boston, Milwaukee, or Richmond. In the next Senate all the important cities of the country will be represented by residents, and the number of very small towns having members will be largely diminished. . . .

"The great majority of the voters of the United States live in country districts, not in large cities or towns. The total vote at the recent election exceeded 14,000,000. Less than 4,000,000 of these voters were residents of cities having 25,000 population or upward, and fully 10,000,000 electors were residents of minor towns and villages, particularly in the South where cities are few. The increase in city membership in the next Congress is considerable, but it is not as large, relatively, as the increase in the influence of city members, for by reason of the greater experience of these Congressmen, they will in the allotment of committee appointments exercise even greater influence than is shown by their increased number."

PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL OF CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS.

BY ignoring Armenian and Cuban "concurrent" resolutions passed by both Houses of Congress President Cleveland has set the judiciary committee of the Senate to work to find out whether concurrent resolutions require the signature of the President. The committee's report takes the ground that the nature or substance of a resolution and not its form controls the question of its disposition. If the resolutions contain matter properly to be regarded as legislative in character and effect, they must be presented to the President for approval; otherwise they need not be. This does not seem to throw any light on the question of whether "the legislative power" of Congress extends to the recognition of foreign governments, but the committee's conclusions have informing interest. We quote from the New York *Tribune's* summary:

"The precise question presented involves the construction of the phrase, 'to which the concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary,' and these words relate more to the mere form of the 'order, resolution, or vote,' as otherwise every action of Congress, other than those pertaining to adjournment, would have to be presented to the President, as Congress consists of two Houses, and can not act or speak as such without the joint or concurrent action or otherwise expressed consent of both bodies. A more acceptable construction would be that no 'order, resolution, or vote' need be presented to the President unless its object-matter is legislation, to which the Constitution expressly requires in the first instance the assent of both Houses—matter to which such assent is constitutionally necessary. In other words, the phrase 'to which the concurrence may be necessary' should be held to refer to the 'concurrence' made 'necessary' by the other provisions of the Constitution, and not to the mere form of the procedure; so that no mere resolution—joint, concurrent, or otherwise—need be presented to the President for his approval unless it relate to matter of legislation to which the Constitution requires the concurrence of both Houses of Congress and the approval of the President—in other words, unless such Congressional action be the exercise of 'legislative powers' vested in Congress under the provisions of Section 1, Article 1.

"A history is given of joint and concurrent resolutions through the various Congresses from the first to the present. With respect to concurrent resolutions, it is pointed out that for more than a hundred years they have been uniformly regarded by all departments of the Government as matters peculiarly within the province of Congress alone. They have never embraced legislative provisions proper, and have not been deemed to require Executive approval. This construction of the Constitution, acquiesced in for a century, must be deemed to be the true construction, with which no court will interfere.

"In conclusion, it is held that the clause in the Constitution which declares that any order, resolution, or vote must be presented to the President, to 'which the concurrence of the Senate and House may be necessary,' refers to the necessity occasioned by the requirement of the other provisions of the Constitution, whereby every exercise of 'legislative powers' involves the concurrence of the two Houses; and every resolution not so requiring such concurrent action need not be presented to the President."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

AN EFFORT TO EXPLAIN.

"PHWAT'S the good av a threaty?" asked Mr. Rafferty, who had been devoting some reading to international topics.

"Wull," replied Mr. Dolan; "it's sometoimes harrud to kape the shtraight av a quarrel an' be sure who's in the roight an' who's in the wrong. A threaty makes it plain as day, an' fur thot it's a good t'ing."

"But how does it work?"

"Supposin' you an' mesilf wus two governmints an' we made a threaty thot we'll hov no foights; nothin' but argumints. An' supposin' Oi git riled at something you do an' shtart in to lick yez."

"Yez couldn't do it, Dolan."

"Oi moight thry."

"An' phwat thin?"

"Then thot u'd be a breach av the threaty an' my part, an' yez could go ahead an' lick me, if ye wor able, wid a clear conscience."—*The Star, Washington.*

BUT THERE ARE OTHER ZONES.

Havana, Jan. 10.—General Weyler has established a military zone around Havana, inclosing a space of five miles on all sides, for the purpose of raising crops for the subsistence of the people of the city, which shows still further to what ends they are driven and how little sympathy and support they can depend upon from the surrounding country.
—*The Times, Pittsburg.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

ILLITERACY OF AMERICAN BOYS.

THIS is the rather alarming title that heads a paper read before the Schoolmasters' Association of New York by E. L. Godkin and published as a leading article in *The Educational Review* (January). Mr. Godkin regards it as certainly true that the rising generation is paying too little attention to the speaking and writing of correct English, and he discusses the means that must be adopted to better this state of things. After calling our attention, at the outset, to the importance of language, and to the consequent necessity of cultivating its correct use, he goes on to say:

"I speak with deliberation when I say that there is no civilized country in which, outside the colleges, so little of this is done as in ours; in which the people at large, tho their average speech is better than usual, pay so little attention to their manner of speaking and choice of words; in which so much havoc is made with the language in daily use. I meet every day with men whom we call educated, who do not seem to care how they speak or how they write. Their speech is full of solecisms, and their letters and notes are unpunctuated scrawls, and in their pronunciation the vowel sounds are summarily got rid of. A dialect is being formed to-day under our very noses in New York which bears only a faint resemblance to English, and which you may see illustrated in 'Chimmie Fadden,' a much-read, much-admired book, which has even been dramatized. . . .

"You may depend upon it that there is no defense against bad speech but habitual good speech. If we wish to speak well, we must speak well every day. You can not have what I may call Sunday or holiday speech, as well as everyday speech, like clothes."

Mr. Godkin proceeds to enumerate what he regards as some of the chief causes of this state of things, or, at any rate, some of the chief obstacles to measures for its abatement. They are: first, the fact that, while in Europe correct speech is the badge of good birth, so that every one who wishes to attain any standing in society must master its use, here parents and society are both indifferent, while teachers have constantly to struggle against the influence of the streets; next, the influence of the press, where "style and nicety of expression are the last thing the writer thinks of." "The dialect novels are another evil influence," and, finally, "the carelessness of teachers also counts for much." How shall we combat this tendency? Mr. Godkin answers:

"This, in my humble opinion, can be done by the simple process of making English of more importance either to get to college or get a degree in it. If a boy is made to understand that this is not possible without a good English equipment, that it is one of the things, not only somewhat needful, but more needful than anything else, I think he would begin at an early age to acquire it, for the hope or prospect of college goes back a long way in a boy's years."

This hope, Mr. Godkin notes, is especially strong in America, and if it were generally understood that incorrect English would make entry hopeless, there is little doubt that this would prove a powerful incentive. Says Mr. Godkin:

"Of this desire to enter college much use may be made, as it seems to me. You have it in your power, with the aid of the colleges, to make good English speech and writing seem throughout the country a necessary part of the equipment of a young man who wishes to graduate somewhere, and thus convert the rapidly increasing class of graduates into real guardians of correct speech. You have the scale of importance of studies in your hands. The study of English, too, no matter how much you exalt it, you will never have to defend, as you have often to defend the study of Latin and Greek. No youth will be able to excuse himself for slovenly diction by pleading want of aptitude for languages, or by saying, as he might often say of mathematics, that he had no head for it. It ought to be made absurd and ridiculous for a boy who can not speak and write his own mother tongue to want to go to college at all. It is not necessary for everybody to go to college. He can stay at home or follow some line of life for which a college education is not necessary. If college education be a prize, therefore, good English should be a condition of the prize, and it would be absurd to treat the exaction of good English as a hardship. Above all, the colleges should be delivered, in large part at least, from the necessity of teaching the mere rudiments of the language. This is not the business of colleges. It is a waste of their funds, and of the time of their professors. They exist in order to make boys familiar with the great master-works of thought, with the best that has been said or written."

In closing, the author gives us a grain of comfort. Things, after all, are better than they used to be with the illiterate American boy. He says:

"That he has improved is shown by the fact that his entrance themes are now better than they used to be. In the matter of the relative importance of studies, he is in your hands. If you do not mend his English, he will be only too glad not to mend it himself. And let me say again emphatically that college is not the place to mend it. College is a place in which to become acquainted with literature. It is not the place to acquire dexterity in the mere daily use of the mother tongue.

"You see, then, that my remedy is simply a change in the scale of importance of studies. I do not say it is a complete remedy, or a remedy easily applied, or a quick remedy, but it seems to be the only remedy within the reach of teachers just now."

LETTERS BY ROBERT BROWNING.

A VOLUME of Browning's letters has been privately printed in London, edited by T. J. Wise. One of these volumes has come into the possession of William G. Kingsland, and he makes a portion of the contents accessible to the public in the current number of *Poet-Lore*. Browning does not appear to have been a remarkable letter-writer, and this fact leads Mr. Kingsland to indulge in some prefatory remarks concerning the decadence of the epistolary art because of the bustle and unrest—the "impetuous bicycle-whirl"—of life in this latter half of the nineteenth century. But if Browning's letters are not adapted for insertion in the "Model Letter Writer," they are very far from being devoid of either personal or literary interest, judging from the samples Mr. Kingsland gives us. Especially, we are told, is this true of the letters written in the forties and fifties, which "awaken, arrest, inspire." Says Mr. Kingsland:

"In those days the poet had not been 'discovered'; the crowd knew him not; the *literati* mostly passed by on the other side. And so the faithful few who knew the wealth of his work, and felt the stimulus of his friendship, were the richer by many letters of biographical value and rare beauty. In some few cases, too, they reveal the deepest convictions of his nature. But toward the seventies, the crowds began to assemble at the shrine of his genius, and there soon opened on him the floodgates of a correspondence that must have been simply appalling. Interesting as many even of these letters are, it is self-evident that they were dashed off in haste at what must have been truly enough Egyptian task-work, without modicum of straw wherewith to lighten the labor. The truth was that, instead of answering a fool according to his folly, which would mean not answering him at all, Browning invariably replied according to the amiability of his nature; and so ensued the 'task-work' of which he so bitterly complained, and which was of all things most destructive to the *art* of letter-writing.

"Fortunately, however, new friendships had been formed, and the poet found, as he neared old age, many eager disciples, to whom he became as prophet, priest, and king. To these he occasionally wrote with all the vigor and incisiveness of the earlier days, and with much frankness also. At the same time I can not fail to note a certain reticence; the poet but rarely opened the curtain on the deeper themes of life. His letters mostly concern his work, or describe scenes of travel, or touch on some bio-

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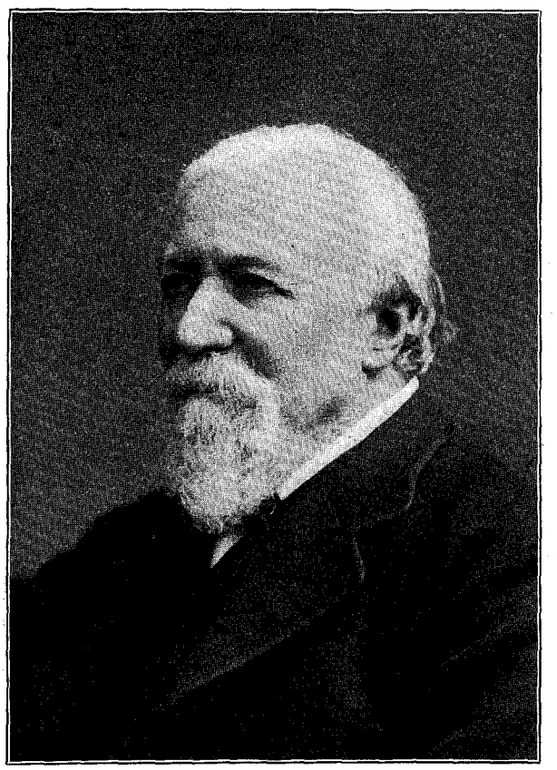
graphical incident, thus forming a veritable mine of wealth to the future biographer (supposing him to be lucky enough to obtain possession of one of Mr. Wise's privately printed volumes!)."

Here is one of the poet's letters, written July 16, 1889, concerning his own hotly indignant reply to a brutal remark about his wife made by Edward Fitzgerald:

"As to my own utterance after receiving unexpectedly an outrage, why, like all impulsive actions, once the impulse over, I believe I might preferably have left the thing to its proper contempt. But there was something too shocking in a man, whom my wife never even heard of, 'feeling relieved at her death, he must say'—and I too said what I must. The people who tell you 'his opinion was really on the woman question' talk nonsense. He might have uttered any amount of impertinence about women's work in general, and that of my wife in particular, without getting a word out of me—but, 'to be relieved at the *death* which would stop the work, thank God!' How editor and publisher could let this passage remain in the letter which a pen-scratch would have left unobjectionable, passes my power of understanding. It is noticeable that the passage is immediately preceded by a sign (. . .) that something considered really objectionable has been omitted; this might pass!"



ROBERT BROWNING.

To a friend seeking information regarding Mrs. Browning's life, presumably for biographical purposes, the poet wrote:

"I have nothing to keep back, and will answer any question to the best of my power. But in the other case, the little I confidently can profess to *know* I am forced to be silent about; and how very little that little is appears extraordinary to me, and may seem almost incredible to anybody else. The personality of my wife was so strong and peculiar that I had no curiosity to go beyond it, and concern myself with matters which she was evidently disinclined to communicate. I believe I discovered her birthday—the day, not the date—three weeks ago, when engaged in some search after missing letters. But I can set right certain errors which appear in the printed notices that I have seen. Any help in that way, which is in my power to give, I will give you readily."

And here is his comment on criticisms passed upon a picture by Mr. R. Barrett Browning ("Pen") representing Joan of Arc standing naked by a pool of water:

"I am ashamed at the objection taken by some of the critics to the Eve-like simplicity of Pen's peasant-girl, who before going on to saintliness (which the church still withholds from her) was satisfied with the proverbially next step to it—cleanliness. If they knew anything of Joan's habits even when advanced in her saintly career, they would remember she was no prude by any means. Her favored young cavalier, the Duc d'Alençon, mentions that he had frequently seen her undress, and that 'aliquando videbat ejus mammas quæ pulchræ erant'—in his very words."

There are a number of references in the letters to Shelley, and of their relations Mr. Kingsland says:

"That Browning was profoundly affected by this poet there can be no doubt; but the lapse of years seems to have alienated him from Shelley the man while rendering him as susceptible as ever to Shelley the poet. This seems to have been brought about by the perusal of certain letters in the possession of Thomas Hookham; which letters appear to have shown in no enviable light Shelley's conduct toward his wife Harriet. In all this Browning was, I think, much mistaken; and Professor Dowden has shown that, whoever was to blame, it was not Shelley altogether. But the reading of the Hookham letters aroused all the chivalry of Browning's nature, as will be seen from the following."

Then follow these two extracts, the latter from a letter December 8, 1885, to Dr. F. J. Furnivall, in response to a request that he (Browning) accept the presidency of the Shelley Society. Neither the date nor the recipient of the letter from which the first extract is taken are given us:

" . . . I wonder if he [Dowden] has had access to the correspondence of the first Mrs. Shelley with—what was the bookseller's name, he of Bond Street, Shelley's intimate friend? He put them into my hands, and a very decided impression they left with me, the reverse of what I had been prepared for by the biographers of Shelley. Hookham (where was my memory?) offered them to me unreservedly on the only occasion of our interview, and they are all-important for a right view of the case as between wife and husband; the latter being, I hold, at that time of his life half crazy and wholly inexcusable."

" . . . The acceptance of this honor is impossible; it would be tantamount to a profession of belief that what the Browning Society has done so helpfully in my case—mine, who stood in need of it—should now be repeated in the case of Shelley, who, for years, has tasked the ingenuity of his admirers to leave no scrap of his writing nor incident of his life without its illustration by every kind of direct or cross light—not, I very much suspect, to the advantage of either. For myself, I painfully contrast my notions of Shelley the *man* and Shelley, well, even the *poet*, with what they were sixty years ago, when I only had his works, for a certainty, and took his character on trust. Moreover, I am frightened just a moment after reading your proposal by learning that I was last night 'unanimously elected Honorary President of the University of Edinburgh in the room of Lord Bury'—see *The Times* of to-day. No hint of such an intention had reached me. What is expected of such a president I have no notion; and, if anything more is required than the thanks for the honor, that honor will be assuredly declined. . . ."

Romance and Realism in the Drama.—Beerbohm Tree has an article on "Some Aspects of the Drama of To-day" in the January number of *The North American Review*, in the course of which he says some sprightly if not new things on a well-worn theme. We quote the passage:

"We have passed through a period of undue pessimism, and now the ultra-realistic or morbid drama has in its turn given place to romanticism. Each school has its ardent champions, who, from the formidable bulwarks of their respective newspapers, shoot peas at each other with pleasing regularity. For me, I love them both. I confess I do not share this leaning toward a morbid monogamy in matters of art; the Muses must not be regarded as purely domestic creatures. People talk as tho romance and the problem play were two things of some sudden birth, as tho we had either lately discovered problems, or had been lately born anew in romance. One day we are told that this is the age of the problem play. We are fascinated by Ibsen, by 'The Second Mrs.

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Tanqueray,' and are under the sway of the new woman in literature, as it might appear, when lo! the voice goes up in the wilderness, 'How long, how long will this problem business last?' And with a gayety and a suddenness which come of the gods and not of men, down swoops Romance, and again a new world has been discovered.

"But what are the facts of the case? Romance and Realism have always been perennially interchangeable. They never interfere with each other. They are the most polite rivals in existence. They are like those Swiss clocks with a little wooden man and a little wooden woman in a little wooden sentinel box. When it is going to rain and wet the dainty robes of Romance (Romance always has robes), back steps Miss Romance into her little wooden box, and out pops the little wooden man called Realism (and you know Realism always has draggled skirts!). These little gentry—in the clock of the stage—they love each other, but they can never be out together. There is no keeping company for them! Like rival stars, they never appear together—when the one is out the other is in, out of the wet, or out of the sun, as the case may be. They never embrace, but they never quarrel. Let us be patient with the great discoverers who are constantly making comparisons and prophecies and proclamations to thrill that great public who care little whether they are given Romance, or the Problem Play, or the Comedy of Manners, so long as the fare provided be interesting and amusing, amusing in the highest sense of the term; at the apex of its expression reaching beauty, at its base touching burlesque."

PROF. MAX MÜLLER'S RECOLLECTIONS OF FROUDE AND KINGSLEY.

CONSIDERABLE interest has been awakened in the literary journals by the "recollections" of Prof. Max Müller, the well-known scientist and philologist. He has had the good fortune of being on intimate terms with such men as Froude, Kingsley, Arnold, Tennyson, Carlyle, Ruskin, Browning, Clough, Macaulay, Grote, Lyall, Darwin, and many other distinguished persons. His characterizations, anecdotes, reminiscences, and pen-pictures shed new light on their life and character. In his article in the January *Cosmopolis* he treats of Froude and Kingsley chiefly, and in the articles to follow others are to be taken up. We quote from his last contribution the following details about Froude's struggle and religious "heresies".

"I knew him first when he was still a fellow of Exeter College. I was at that time often with him in his rooms in High Street, opposite to St. Mary's Church, when he was busy writing novels, and I well remember passing an evening with him and trying to find a name for the novel, which afterward appeared under the title of 'Nemesis of Faith.' I saw him almost daily while his persecution at Oxford was going on, gaining strength every day. He had to give up his fellowship, on which he chiefly depended. I will not repeat the old story that his novel was publicly burnt in the quadrangle of Exeter College. The story is interesting as showing how quickly a myth can spring up even in our own time, if only there is some likelihood in it, and something that pleases the popular taste. What really happened was, as I was informed at the time by Froude himself, no more than that one of the tutors (Dr. Sewell) spoke about the book at the end of one of his college lectures. He warned the young men against the book, and asked whether anybody had read it. One of the undergraduates produced a copy which belonged to him. Dr. Sewell continued his sermonette, and, warming with his subject, he finished by throwing the book, which did not belong to him, into the fire, at the same time stirring the coals to make them burn. Of what followed there are two versions. Dr. Sewell, when he had finished, asked his class, 'Now, what have I done?' 'You have burned my copy,' the owner of the book said in a sad voice, 'and I shall have to buy a new one.' The other version of the reply was, 'You have stirred the fire, sir.'

"And so it was. A book which at present would call forth no remark, no controversy, was discussed in all the newspapers, and raised a storm all over England. Bishops shook their heads, nay even their fists, at the young heretic. And Froude not only lost his fellowship, but when he had accepted the head-mastership of a college far away in Tasmania, his antagonists did not rest till his appointment had been cancelled. The worst of it was that Froude was poor, and that his father, a venerable archdeacon, was so displeased with his son that he stopped the allowance which he had formerly made him. It seems almost as if the poverty of a victim gave increased zest and enjoyment to his pursuers. Froude had to sell his books one by one, and was trying hard to support himself by his pen. This was then not so easy a matter as it is now. At that very time, however, I received a check for £200 from an unknown hand, with a request that I would hand it to Froude to show him that he had friends and sympathizers who would not forsake him. It was not till many years later that I discovered the donor, and Froude was then able to return him the money which at the time had saved him from drowning."

When Lord Salisbury appointed Froude professor of history at Oxford, the historian said that that was the first public recognition he had received. He felt that critics had treated him unfairly, and Professor Müller agrees with this opinion. He says:

"Whatever he wrote, he had to meet not a single critic only, but a whole army. As far as one could see, a kind of association had been formed for the suppression of his history. Those who were behind the scenes know how certain of his rivals and enemies actually banded themselves together, as if against a common enemy. Now, I remember seeing in *Fraser's Magazine*, then edited by Froude, a review of Green's 'History of the English People,' with pages and pages of mistakes in names, in dates, in facts. Yet the same writers who delighted in picking holes in Froude's 'History' from week to week, from month to month, from year to year, kept up a constant chorus of applause for Green's 'History of the English People'—no doubt rightly so; but why not mete the same measure to Froude also? One of his reviewers openly confessed that if he took the trouble of reading a book carefully, he could not afford to review it in one paper only, he had to write at least five or six articles to make it pay. This *Φρονδοφόνια*, as it was called, went on year after year, but, strange to say, Froude's work was not killed by it; on the contrary, it became more and more popular. In fact, together with his other works, it enabled him to live independently and even comfortably by his pen. Things have come to such a pass that, if we may trust the experience of publishers, nothing sells so well as a well-abused book, while laudatory notices seem to produce little or no effect. The public, it seems, has grown too wise."

Kingsley, according to Professor Müller, was a much stronger man than Froude. He incurred great displeasure by supporting Christian Socialism, and his bitter personal attack on Newman alienated many of his friends. Public opinion was against Kingsley, and he felt his defeat most deeply. The sale of his most popular works suddenly collapsed, and he thought that all his labor had been vain and futile. After his death, however, an extraordinary reaction in his favor occurred, and his books sold in hundreds of thousands. Of his early literary activity, Professor Müller says:

"Kingsley seems to have had no anxieties as a young man at school or at the University, but when he had left the University and become a curate, and, more particularly, when he had married on his small curacy and there were children, his struggles began in good earnest. He had often to write against time; he had to get up subject after subject in order to be able to write an article, simply that he might be able to satisfy the most troublesome tradesmen. He always wrote at very high pressure; fortunately his physical frame was of iron, and his determination like that of a runaway horse. People may say that he had the usual income of a country clergyman, but why will they forget that a man in Kingsley's position had not only to give his children an expensive education, but had to keep open house for his numerous friends and admirers? There was no display in his quiet rectory at Eversley, but even the simplest hospitality entails more expense than a small living can bear, and his friends and visitors ranged from the lowest to the highest—from poor workmen to English and foreign royalties. As long as he could wield his pen he could procure the necessary supplies, but it had to be done with a very great strain on the brain. 'It must be done, and it shall be done,' he said; yes, but tho most of his work was done,

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and well done, it was like the work of an athlete, who breaks down at the end of the day when his victory is won. People did not see it and did not know it, for he never would yield, and never would show signs of yielding. When, toward the end of his life, a canonry was offered him, first at Chester, then at Westminster, he felt truly grateful. 'After all,' he said to me, 'these stalls are good for old horses.'"

Kingsley's religion was pure, practical, and ethical. Work rather than creed was his doctrine. The following characteristic incident shows his sincerity and religious liberalism. His love of nature and knowledge of botany and other natural sciences had produced in him a strong belief in the laws and uniformities of nature, in which he saw the direct embodiment of divine will:

"When therefore [says Professor Müller] after a long continuance of drought the bishop of his diocese ordered him to have a special prayer for rain, he simply declined. He would pray for the good gifts of heaven, offer thanks to God for all that He was pleased to send in His wisdom, but he would not put our small human wisdom against the divine wisdom; he would not specify what he thought was good for us, for God knew best. He had no difficulty in persuading his farmers and laborers that if they had any trust in God and any reverence for the divine wisdom that rules the world they would place all their troubles and cares before Him in prayer, but they would not beg for anything which in His wisdom He withheld from them. 'Thy will be done'; that was his prayer for rain. There was great commotion in ecclesiastical dove-cotes, most of all in episcopal palaces. All sorts of punishments were threatened, but Kingsley remained throughout most respectful yet most determined. He would not degrade his sacred office to that of a rain-maker or medicine-man, and he carried his point. 'In America we manage these things better!' said an American friend of Kingsley's. 'A clergyman in a village on the frontier between two of our States would pray for rain. The rain came, and it soaked the ground to such an extent that the young lambs in the neighboring State caught cold and died. An action was brought against the clergyman for the mischief he had done, and he and his parishioners were condemned to pay damages to the sheep farmers. They never prayed for rain again after that.'"

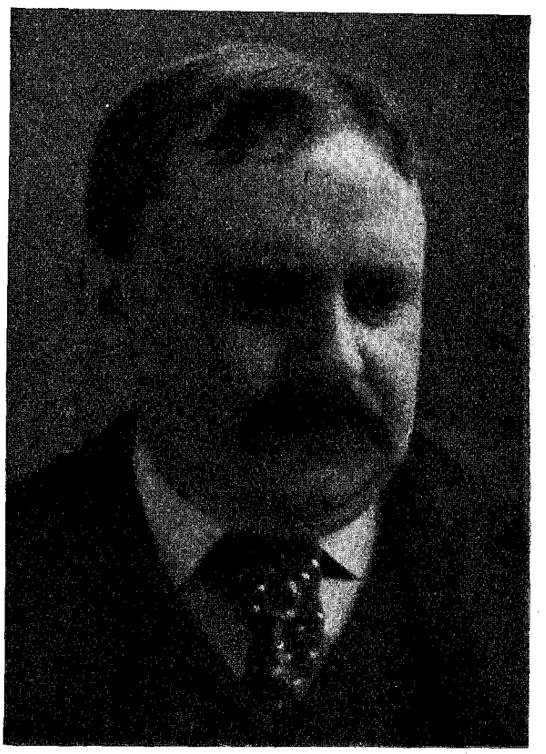
FOREIGN TRIBUTE TO AN AMERICAN HISTORIAN.

"THE Life of Napoleon Bonaparte" which Prof. William Milligan Sloane has recently published, and from which, as it appeared in instalments in *The Century*, many extracts appeared in our columns, is in the London *Spectator's* opinion a "really great" and "monumental" work. It thinks that, as in the case of Captain Mahan's work on sea-power, no European historian could have occupied the necessary vantage-point to have written so satisfactory a book. We quote from *The Spectator* as follows:

"Mr. Sloane has added another to the many valuable works which America is now contributing to the clearing up of the history of Europe. In the past Washington Irving, Motley, and not a few others have done great service in the historical field. But almost all that either Motley or Washington Irving, or any of the earlier American historians, have written depends for its value on the relative literary ability of the writers in competition with their *confrères* in Europe. On the other hand, it is not too much to say that no European historian, no matter what his ability, could have dealt with the subjects which they have chosen for their pens with such manifest vantage as Captain Mahan and Mr. Sloane. It was an incalculable gain for historical truth and for the influence of his works that it should be an American naval officer who set forth the position which England and England's navy occupied in the great struggles against Napoleon. It is scarcely less satisfactory that it should be an American historian who undertakes the task of balancing between the adulators and the enemies of Napoleon and of producing an impartial estimate of his career."

The Spectator criticizes Professor Sloane, however, for carelessness of statement "as soon as he touches the region of military affairs"; but, despite this, it renders the following judgment of the work as a whole:

"In many respects the book is a really great one. It represents enormous labor, much sound judgment, and most careful balancing with an impartial hand of conflicting evidence. It is monumental in the form and perfection in which it is brought out. We are rather glad than otherwise that it throws into the background Napoleon the soldier, in order to portray in full perfection Napoleon the man and the politician, only using arms as a means to an end; but the defect to which we have alluded is not so much a question of military history as of true history. It appears to us to affect the soundness of Mr. Sloane's writing whenever he touches upon a military question."



By courtesy of *The Bookman*.

PROF. WILLIAM M. SLOANE.

Professor Sloane recently resigned his position as professor of history in Princeton University to accept the Seth Low chair of history in Columbia University. According to *The Bookman*, it is no secret that, upon the death of President McCosh, Professor Sloane would have been made president of Princeton but that the college traditions required the incumbent of that office to be a preacher. *The Bookman* gives also the following facts concerning him:

"Professor Sloane has had an unusual training for historical teaching, having enjoyed at once broad literary culture, long practise in methods of historical research, and a scarcely less indispensable acquaintance with the world and its affairs. He graduated from Columbia University in the class of 1868, and also studied in Germany, turning his attention at first to linguistic pursuits, and making an especial study of the Latin language and literature and of Semitic. For some time, however, he was the private secretary of the Hon. George Bancroft, the historian, and aided him very effectively in the prosecution of his investigations. This probably turned his mind to history as his life vocation, for altho he first held at Princeton University the chair of Latin, he soon transferred his efforts to historical work and accepted the post of professor of history in that institution. In 1887 the trustees of Columbia University called him to the Latin chair, made vacant by the death of Prof. Charles Short, but he had

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already so identified himself with another line of work that he declined the offer. Since then his name has steadily gained in eminence, and the publication of his latest book has given him an international reputation, the English and Continental notices being remarkably and unusually cordial in their expressions of praise and admiration."

In this country, *The Bookman* thinks, the commendation has been less general than abroad, and attributes this to the fact that the book has not catered to the desire for back-door scandal, piquant anecdote, and personal gossip, with which the public has of late years been led to identify Napoleonic literature.

RISE OF THE POSTER ARTIST.

THE poster fad has to-day, it is said, three monthly magazines devoted to its promulgation. There are artists who have grown famous on their poster designs alone, and there are art collectors who devote all their energies to the collection of such designs. The advertising man and the artist have here joined their interests, and the combined product is one of the most characteristic features of this age of mercantility, as Matthew Arnold called it. A carefully written article in the New York *Sun* gives a number of facts concerning this fad and the artists who have found in it a new field for their talents. We give here an instructive extract:

"The first man to appreciate the possible significance of posters and to work in accordance with his appreciation, was Frederick Walker, who, in 1871, designed a poster for Mr. Wilkie Collins's dramatization of 'A Woman in White.' He wrote at that time: 'I am bent on doing all I can with a first attempt at what I consider might develop into a most important branch of art,' and he hoped for followers in the new line of work. He was disappointed in this, however; the time was not ready for the great street reform that he anticipated, and his own poster was all that came of it. This was in England.

"In France Jules Cheret was the first to bring the poster into prominence, and he is still considered to stand at the head of the poster-makers. Poster magazines enthusiastically refer to him as the 'poster poet' or the 'magician of the brush,' and wax exuberantly eloquent over his 'rich imagination,' his 'dramatic temperament,' and his coloring 'vivid, yet harmonious.' Allowing for some extravagance of statement, which should perhaps be permitted to magazines, one of which announces itself as a 'journal of enthusiasm,' this characterization seems in the main correct. Most brilliant reds and yellows meet side by side upon his sheets, but never clash. He is frequently vehement in his coloring, but never harsh or vulgar. His subjects are usually frolicsome creatures. He is fond of carnival scenes and masquerades, and treats each with a lightness and gayety that are charming. Cheret was quickly followed by two brothers, Leon and Alfred Choubrac, and later by a host of others, among whom are Steinlen, famed for his decoration of 'Le Chat Noir'; Toulouse-Lautrec, with his bold, straggling lines; Grasset, with his stately knights and maids from the days of chivalry; Pal, Bac, Meunier, Lefevre, Bouisset, and Willette. Grasset's work is perhaps best known to Americans by his poster advertising the Napoleon articles in *The Century*. At the brink of an abyss is Napoleon reining in his war-horse. The picture is bathed in a mysterious red and yellow light, in which the figures stand out with vigor. The significance is, of course, that Napoleon has led his army to the uttermost point where victory is possible.

"In England but little heed was paid to the poster in the years between Frederick Walker and Aubrey Beardsley—he of 'Yellow Book' fame. Beardsley was one who saw in the poster a chance to free his art expression from professional restraint. His results have been truly startling. He held that it was as legitimate to conventionalize the human figure as to conventionalize a flower or a tree or anything else. He accordingly made this but one item in his decorative scheme and twisted and turned it into whatever shape his idea of the harmony and balance of the whole decoration demanded. The test of a method is its success. Mr. Beardsley emphasized an idea new in decorative art and one whose influence it will be interesting to trace. His results have been more grotesque than beautiful.

"In this country four names stand perhaps as those of the leaders—Will H. Bradley, Louis Rhead, Edward Penfield, and Ethel Reed—altho they are so closely pressed upon by E. P. Bird, F. Hazenplug, and perhaps one or two others, that discrimination is difficult. . . .

"This poster work has in it elements that interest, if for no more than their novelty. Should its sole result be the extinction of the lithographic horrors that have so long degraded our streets, its mission will be worthy of men's applause. In Paris, it is said, this has already been in great measure accomplished—even in the matter of play-bills, which are New York's particular art tribulation—so that a person as impervious to all ordinary scraps of beauty as a professional art critic has confessed to an actual enjoyment of much of Cheret's work on the Paris boards. The enthusiasts of the poster-magazines are, however, more ambitious in their prophecies. They announce the arrival of a 'second renaissance,' a 'new birth of freedom for art.' Some of these utterances seem almost deliriously exaggerated. People can hardly hope for much permanent good to what has come to be considered as the highest form of art, the pictorial, from work which, from the very nature of the demands made upon it, must pursue an aim not new, and always false, the aim for effectiveness rather than truth. To quote the 'Conundrum of the Workshops':

"'When the flush of a new-born sun first fell on Eden's green and gold,
Our father Adam sat under the tree and scratched with a stick in the mold;
And the first rude sketch that the world had seen was joy to his mighty heart,
Till the devil whispered behind the leaves, "It's pretty, but is it art?"'

"Applying the question of his snakish majesty to the poster, another may be added: 'And if so, of what kind?' to which it may be replied: 'It seems to us that it is in art of design that the influence of this work will be longest and most helpfully felt, to which arts the scratchings of our first father probably also belonged.'"

NOTES.

MR. LOCKE RICHARDSON'S elation over his discovery that Falstaff's dying words when "a babbled o' green fields" related to the 23d psalm, has been somewhat dampened by a letter from Prof. Edward Dowden, of Trinity College, Dublin, who writes: "Your independent proposal of an interpretation which had been previously made by Mr. S. Neil is very interesting."

THE Burrows Company, of Cleveland, Ohio, have entered upon the formidable task of publishing, in "about sixty volumes," the "Jesuit Relations and Allied Documents," in the original French, Latin, and Italian texts, with English translations and notes, and illustrated "by" portraits, maps, and facsimiles. Reuben Gould Thwaite, secretary of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, is to be the editor. There is said to be but one complete set of the Relations in this country, in the Lenox Library, and the great body of them has never appeared in English. Readers of Parkman do not need to be told of the immense historical importance of these papers.

HERE is a list of the titles of some of the books ordered during 1896 of an English publishing firm, and the titles as written by those ordering:

BOOK REQUIRED.	TITLE AS ORDERED.
"Republic of Plato." By Jowett.	"Republic of Flats." By Jowett.
"Murray's Handbook to Algiers and Tunis."	"Murray's Handbook to Algebra and Tunics."
"Across Russian Snows."	"Across the Russian's Nose."
"Boy Hero." By Walsham How.	"The Boy Hero of Walthamstow."
"Aristotle's Masterpiece."	"Harry Stockle's Masterpiece."
"Bog Myrtle and Peat."	"Boy, Muscle, and the Peas."
"Morgan's St. Paul in Britain."	"Morgan's St. Paul in Brighton."
"Play Actress." By Crockett. Pseudonym Library.	"Play Actress, and Cricket in the Pandemonium Library."

REGARDING the claim made by certain critics in England, anent their "discovery" of Crane's "Red Badge of Courage," that recognition of genius here waits upon its recognition abroad, a writer in *The Critic* comes back in the following style: "Thomas de Quincey and Herbert Spencer were appreciated in this country before England recognized them: Robert Louis Stevenson had a host of enthusiastic admirers here before England discovered him; America brought forward Félix Gras, the Provençal romancer, and introduces his 'Reds of the Midi' to England. But we do not think it worth while to keep up an incessant chatter over our acumen, and we have hardly smiled at England's change from scorn of our 'Trilby' enthusiasm to hysterics which far outdid our example. And how about Carlyle? I have an impression that Emerson 'boomed' him in this country long before his own people awakened to his greatness. And did not Mrs. Browning find many of her earliest admirers among us? Yet the English reviewer clings to his 'Red Badge' myth: 'After English praise, the author's countrymen reconsidered their verdict.'"

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SCIENCE.

A LABORATORY FOR FREE RESEARCH.

THE great public laboratory for original research, endowed in England by Dr. Ludwig Mond, the eminent chemist, and opened with ceremony by the Prince of Wales and other dignitaries on December 22 last, will doubtless prove a most noteworthy aid to the advancement of pure science. Contrasting it with Nobel's bequest, noticed recently in these columns, *The Engineering and Mining Journal* (January 23) says:

"This, it seems to us, is a much more effective way of assisting scientific progress than the Nobel plan. The opportunity to conduct research with the aid of appliances very often out of the reach of the individual investigator, and with the best scientific advice and supervision, is almost an ideal condition for the student. Dr. Mond's plan is limited to investigations in pure science; but it would be very easy to extend the scope of such an institution to include researches in metallurgy and industrial chemistry, the results of which might and probably would be of great practical value. Only those who have been engaged in such work know how often they have obtained glimpses of possible discoveries, and have been forced by necessity, lack of means, and the demands of daily work to postpone their experiments and investigations; too often, indeed, to abandon them altogether."

The laboratory, which occupies a building next door to the Royal Institution, once the residence of Lord Cowley, is thus described in *The Scientific American:*

"Externally there are only trivial signs of the splendid accommodation that Dr. Mond has provided inside No. 20 Albemarle Street for the men of research. A London *Daily Graphic* representative who recently went over the laboratory found that the numerous spacious rooms extending from the basement to the fourth floor had all been admirably utilized. No fewer than sixteen separate laboratories for research work, each capable of accommodating one or more investigators with their assistants, have been provided, besides a large museum of apparatus and various rooms for special experiments. It is interesting to note how the specialisms into which all scientific research tends to divide itself appear to have been provided for. On the ground floor, for instance, is a fine room specially fitted for the delicate work of organic chemistry—that progressive branch which has given us the myriad useful products of coal-tar and has the loftiest aims, perhaps, of all. You can see in all the beautiful fittings and apparatus the experience which Dr. Mond has borrowed from the great German laboratories.

"At the rear of this is an equally fine room for 'inorganic' research, and between the two a balance-room, where the subtile compounds under treatment by the chemists are weighed down to the tinest fraction of a grain. Solidly bedded on masses of stone projecting from the walls, nothing short of an earth wave would give them a tremor. When you are weighing to the 5,000th part of a grain, you require precautions of this sort.

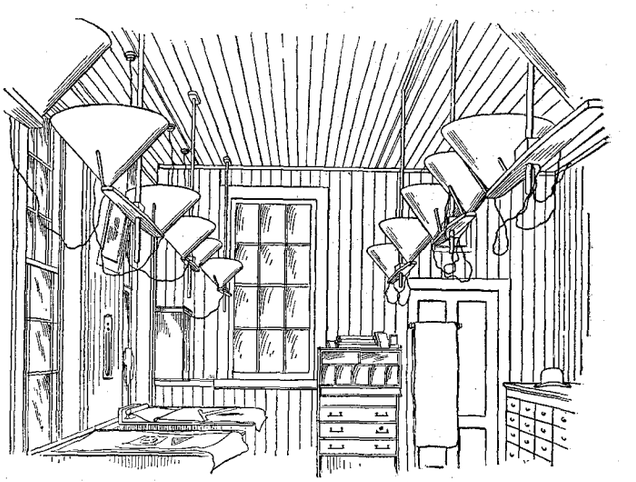
"On this same ground floor is a useful little iron-clad den. This is the explosion-room, and the post of observation is at a small hole in the iron door. Down in the basement are rooms for thermo and pyro-chemistry. The latter means research with the all-conquering electric furnace. Great batteries of electrical accumulators are to be found here, and deep down below the level of Albemarle Street we find Lord Cowley's wine-cave converted to the nobler uses of a 'constant-temperature' vault. A beautiful room is the museum of apparatus on the second floor, where everything will awe and bewilder the layman. For here are stored all the fearful and wonderful tools with which the researchers will work. It is a blaze of glass and brass. By the time the visitor has got up to the third floor he gets bewildered with the apparently endless succession of handsome workrooms, all splendidly fitted with teak operating-tables, glazed fume-chambers, slate reagent racks, gas furnaces, blowpipe stands, stoneware sinks, and what not. On the fourth floor it is still the same varied by a dark room for electric discharge observations, and another absolutely black for photographic work. Even the roof comes in; the eternal red gas and blue water-pipes which crawl about everywhere are found writhing up here. In a word, this is a place where the chemist can be happy. It is kept at the even standard chemical temperature (62° Fahrenheit) throughout by steam radiators, and there is a lift reaching every floor. Dr. Alexander Scott will be the superintendent of the laboratory, and Lord Rayleigh and Professor Dewar its directors."

Of the regulations that are to govern the use of the investigator's paradise *The Electrical Engineer*, London, says:

"Any person desiring to use the laboratory for the purpose of conducting a research must send to the directors evidence of scientific training and previous experience in original research, along with a statement of the nature of the investigation he proposes to undertake. Application should be made in the first instance to the assistant secretary, Royal Institution, from whom further information on the subject of the purposes for which the laboratory is available will be forthcoming. . . . As this is the only institution of the kind in existence, it may reasonably be anticipated that the directors will have somewhat of a task to decide between the applicants desiring to use the facilities offered. Should these prove very numerous, the position will be one of some delicacy, since not only are there no precedents to fall back upon, but there is the consciousness that, besides what is actually accomplished there, the working of the Davy-Faraday laboratory may have indirectly most important effects on the future of science, since a few years of conspicuous success there would almost certainly serve to turn some portion of the stream of public beneficence into the direction of similar institutions and the much-desired endowment of pure research."

ELECTRIC LIGHTING BY REFLECTION.

IT might be supposed that in lighting a large room, as in a factory, the desideratum is to have as little as possible between the source of light and the space to be illuminated. On the contrary, in a recent successful system, the lamps are completely hidden, the light that reaches the room being entirely



ELECTRIC LIGHTING BY REFLECTION.

reflected from the ceiling. This system of illumination by reflection, which has been successfully used abroad for several years, but which has just been introduced into this country, is thus described in *The Electrical Review*, January 20. The room illustrated is the drafting-room of an engine-building shop in Cincinnati:

"The lighting is done by incandescent lamps, supported by a hanging rod from the ceiling and having a cross-arm below, to each end of which a lamp is attached, but inverted from the usual position. These lamps are surrounded by opaque reflectors, which allow no light to pass through them, but which reflect it upward to the ceiling. In the experimental arrangement which

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is still in use, these shades are made of heavy drawing-paper, blue-printed on the outside to render it more opaque. The paper throws the light up to the ceiling, which, together with the side walls and all the furniture in the room, is painted white. The successive reflections from these surfaces result in filling the room with a soft diffused light which casts no shadows, and under which work is so agreeable that the men linger at night over their drawings. Mr. Lane states that the light is better than daylight, softer, more agreeable and restful to the eye, and casting no shadows upon the drawing-paper from any direction.

"Two of the lights are mounted over each drawing-board. The general arrangement of the shades will be apparent from the illustration. . . . If such an arrangement works so well in Cincinnati, where the coal soot must have a very bad effect on the white paint, it should certainly work even better in cleaner cities and towns."

THE DANGER OF COLD, DAMP SLEEPING-ROOMS.

AMERICANS are much derided by their English cousins for keeping their houses too warm. Yet it appears from the following extract from *The Hospital* that our kin across sea sometimes err in another direction. This fact, which has long been patent to visiting Americans, is now commented on by the Englishman's own medical adviser as follows:

"When there is too much water in the atmosphere the person who breathes it is to a certain limited extent deprived of his due supply of oxygen, and an elementary beginning of suffocation is perceived in his chest. Most middle-aged and all old persons have felt this, and all persons also who have weak hearts or impaired lungs. Now the air of bedrooms is exceedingly liable to be overcharged with watery vapor. The most obvious reasons for this are that many bedrooms are never warmed with fires, and that their windows are often left open all day until dusk, and sometimes even to the very hour of going to bed. Let us think of some of the consequences of going to bed in very damp air. A delicate or an aged person leaves a warm drawing-room, say, at half-past eleven, a drawing-room in which there was a temperature of 68°; he enters a cold, damp bedroom, say, at a temperature of 38°. The air in the drawing-room was dry, perhaps a little too dry. The air in the bedroom is saturated with cold watery vapor. The person we are thinking of, so soon as he enters the bedroom, chokes and gasps and coughs for half an hour at least, and sometimes brings on such an attack of asthma, or, as he calls it, 'stuffiness' of the chest, that he can hardly breathe at all. He may even lose his night's sleep, and be ill for some days after such an exposure. Now, common sense says: 'Make an effort to bring the atmosphere of the bedroom nearer in point both of dryness and warmth to the atmosphere of the drawing-room; and then not only will a man feel as comfortable in the bedroom as in the drawing-room, but even more comfortable. He will neither gasp, nor choke, nor cough, but will go to sleep with ease and comfort.' Common sense teaches some people all this. But to those who have no special regard for common sense science tells the same tale, and she speaks with a voice whose authority not even the most learned will question."

Cooling of the Globe as a Primary Cause of Evolution.—"According to M. R. Quinton," says *Cosmos*, "the different modes of reproduction observed in the animal scale—oviparous, marsupial, viviparous—are the immediate consequence of the cooling of the globe. Life appeared on the globe in a high-temperature medium; it had at the outset for its chemical phenomena the temperature of this surrounding medium. The present representatives of this primitive age are the so-called 'cold-blooded' animals; these have undergone an adaptation that, now as then, determines an equality between their internal temperature and that of the medium. But there were some who were not adapted to the fall of temperature which was the occasion of a thermic separation, more and more great, between the exterior medium and the animal chemical substance. The first beings were oviparous. But in the presence of the separation in temperature this mode of reproduction could not exist any longer, and the animal was obliged to use its own heat to warm its eggs; hence the successive appearance of the marsupial mode, and then the viviparous mode, and the oviparous with incubation. From this theory of the origin of these methods of reproduction, M. Quinton thinks that he can deduce that of the types of mammals and birds."—*Translated for the* LITERARY DIGEST.

SCIENTIFIC DISINFECTION.

THE following description of the methods and material of scientific disinfection, especially as carried on in France, is translated from an article on the subject in *Cosmos* (Paris, January 2):

"To prevent the propagation of contagious diseases, two conditions are necessary and sufficient: the isolation of the persons attacked, and the destruction of the germs that come from them and might infect the places that they occupy and the objects that they touch.

"Experience has shown that for the greater number of virulent agents infection takes place by direct contact and seldom through the air. Thus, in a hospital, if we have an isolated pavilion with a special staff that does not communicate with those outside, we shall surely avoid cases of contagion. This is what has been done in the case of diphtheria at the Children's Hospital [in Paris]. The method of isolated pavilions ought to become general for the majority of contagious maladies.

"But what is practicable for special establishments is not so for ordinary life. Certain hygienists desire that, besides hospitals, paying sanitariums should be established in most cities, and that persons should be compelled to carry thither for care all persons attacked with contagious disease.

"This is hardly practicable; such interference with individual freedom would be unobjectionable in the instance of an isolated case of an exotic pestilential malady whose spread it was noted to arrest; but at the present day, when microbiology is tending to invade the whole province of medicine, it would be logical, if the principle were admitted, to isolate all sick persons; we should have to build new leper-houses for consumptives; we should have to isolate all persons affected with eruptive maladies, and even simple grippe would have to be treated thus rigorously, not to mention the fact that physicians, relatives, friends, and nurses would all be condemned to the same isolation, for they are all certainly agents of diffusion.

"Disinfection properly managed will arrest the spread of most epidemics without recourse to too rigorous methods.

"The physician who visits a sick person need not carry germs with him or take them away. This is simple enough; careful washing with antiseptic fluids is generally sufficient.

"In some rare cases, he must either put on a special garment over his clothes or change the latter before visiting another patient. These exceptional precautions should be taken by nurses and attendants on account of the prolonged stays that they must make with those suffering from the disease.

"Scrupulous cleanliness is the best of antiseptics. For the linen, immersion in a solution of sulfate of copper or of corrosive sublimate is a sufficient means of disinfection. For all easily transportable objects superheated steam may be used in heaters, of which there are several types.

"It has been advised to clean with bread crumbs such delicate articles of furniture as would be injured by liquids or antiseptics.

"The city of Paris uses the heater in its disinfection-service for movable objects, and antiseptic liquids in an atomizer for rooms, etc. Numerous investigations lead us to fear that such sprinkling is of little use. As in spite of this the methods employed generally succeed in stopping the propagation of contagious disease, we must suppose that the washing of floors, as usually practised, is sufficient, and that the walls are rarely infected.

"The method of making sure of the efficiency of any process of disinfection is to place in a room cultures of different microbes and test their virulence after the application of the process.

"This method proves the slight efficiency of sprinkling with antiseptic liquids, as generally practised; nothing will do short of actual washing of the walls with antiseptic water, which would destroy paper and hangings.

"The use of vapors of sulfurous acid produced by burning sul-

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fur, which has for long years been considered as a classic among disinfecting processes, is also condemned as insufficient.

"M. Pictet has proposed a method of using this sulfurous acid that constitutes a new and more efficient means. But at present the vapors of formic aldehyd, or formol, seem to give the best results. We have already spoken of this process; we mention it again to speak of some new experiments made by Dr. Bosc, of Montpellier.

"Dr. Bosc scattered on the floor, the beds, and the curtains of a hospital ward, specimens of micro-organisms. He arranged them along a band running from floor to ceiling; he placed them in the pocket of a coat, in the center of a mattress, and he succeeded in destroying the virulent properties of all the microbes, dry or moist."

Among the various conclusions drawn by Dr. Bosc from his experiments, we select the following as likely to be of the greatest interest to our readers:

"The dry vapors of formaldehyd, at saturation, destroy, at the end of five hours of activity, pathogenic germs on dry pieces of linen well exposed to these vapors. The germs are destroyed in all parts of the room in which the vapors are set free, as well as in the adjoining hallways, in spite of their considerable size. . . . The dust of the rooms and their walls are disinfected, and in outside dust from the laboratory or the ground only the spores of *Bacillus subtilis* and *Bacillus mesentericus* remain, which makes no difference from the standpoint of practical disinfection.

"Points in direct contact with the vapors of formol are disinfected; when contact is difficult the result is more doubtful; thus of the two specimens placed in a coat-pocket whose flap was turned down, one was killed, while the other resisted. . . .

"The bacillus of tuberculosis was killed in both dry and moist sputum. . . .

"These facts lead us to the conclusion that in order that disinfection should be effective the vapors of formol must come in contact as freely as possible with all points of the object.

"Folds of cloth should be avoided; linen and clothes should be spread out on the ground or hung on lines; the pockets of garments should be turned inside out, and the contents of mattresses should be removed and spread out. After the disinfection, air should be admitted to the room and it may be entered with safety in a quarter of an hour, the windows remaining open. After two days of ventilation no odor will be left, even when the room is shut up.

"We should add that the vapors do not alter the tissues. It would seem that we are in possession of a most efficient agent of disinfection."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

PLANTS THAT GIVE LIGHT BY NIGHT.

THE following account of the phosphorescence of plants, which is much more common than most persons imagine, tho few have observed it, is contributed to *La Nature* (Paris, January 9) by M. Charles Marsillon. He says:

"The phosphorescent gleam that certain plants and flowers give out in darkness constitutes one of the strangest phenomena of the vegetable kingdom. The illustrious Linnæus was the first to call the attention of the scientific world to this singular phenomenon, which before his time had been unobserved or unknown. While walking in his father's garden on a calm, warm, and fine summer night, he was surprised to see a bunch of *Tropæolum majus*, the common nasturtium, or capucine, that seemed to have flowers that shone with iridescent colors in the midst of the gloom.

'Captivated by the novelty of the spectacle, the future scientist repeated his nocturnal walk many times, and each time he saw the fantastic gleams of the capucine flowers. An electrician of the period, Wilcke, to whom the young Linnæus related his interesting observations, attributed the display to some electric phenomenon, an opinion that was shared by a number of writers who mentioned the curious property.

"Nevertheless, all did not agree on this point; some were of the opinion that this phosphorescence was merely apparent, and was an optical illusion. . . .

"Numerous other flowers possess the strange property observed in the nasturtium. Among them, the marsh lily, that grows abundantly in the marshes of south Africa, presents the same peculiarities. Erasmus Darwin, who studied this flower closely, regarded it as the most perfect type of phosphorescent vegetables. The assertions of a great number of scientific observers leave no doubt of the fact that certain plants have this singular property of becoming luminous at night.

"A Swedish naturalist, Haggren, carried his love for this new kind of investigation so far as to employ a special watchman to walk about his garden for whole nights and notify him at once of luminous plants and flowers. The scientist was thus able to prove that the phosphorescence was noticed especially after a very sunny day, while it was invisible in rainy weather. The light increased in intensity during July and August; it appeared about half an hour after sunset and vanished at dawn.

"Haggren carried his investigations farther still; he subjected these singular flowers to a microscopic examination to find out whether the phenomenon did not depend on the presence of insects or other organisms. Repeated experiment showed the improbability of this; he found nothing, and concluded that, according to the opinion of Wilcke, the phenomenon had probably an electric origin. He thought, besides, that the pollen of the flower probably played an important part in the production of the light. His opinion seemed to be confirmed by the fact that the flower of the nasturtium, on which he experimented, shone with a brighter light at the time of full florescence.

"Dowden and three other botanists observed the same phenomenon at different times; they reported their observations in the London *Botanical Journal* about 1842. More recently, during the past ten years, Canon Russel has reported the same phenomena. His scientific papers prove that the phosphorescence extends to the leaves of certain plants, those of the nasturtium in particular. This scientist thus proved that the light persists even after the leaves have been detached from the parent stem.

"In September, 1891, he wrote to *Science Gossip* as follows: 'During the evening of June 19, 1889, I was walking in my garden, when, in passing near a marigold, the *Calendula officinalis*, I was struck with the intense light given out by its flowers. I waited several seconds and observed to my great surprise that the scintillating light seemed to play around the petals. I thought that I was the victim of an ocular illusion, so to check my own observations I called several persons and asked them if they saw anything extraordinary.

"'Several exclaimed that they saw little flames dancing around the flowers; others could scarcely distinguish them, and only at rare intervals; others still, in spite of sustained attention, could see nothing remarkable. This is without doubt due to the fact that the power of vision varies greatly with observers, the optic nerves being more sensitive with some than with others. The phenomenon, which began to be visible about half-past eight in the evening, lasted a whole hour, with remarkable alternations of great and of decreasing intensity. At certain moments the entire plant became phosphorescent.'

"The fraxinella, or *Dictamnus fraxinella*, of which there are three varieties in our gardens, the white, the red, and the purple, seems to excel all other phosphorescent flowers or plants in luminous intensity. This plant secretes in abundance an essential oil that in times of great heat spreads in a thin layer over the surface of the flower and then volatilizes, impregnating the surrounding atmosphere with its vapor. This vapor has the property of becoming luminous in darkness, so that the flowers appear to take fire by contact with the surrounding atmosphere.

"A variety of euphorbia, the *Euphorbia phosphorea*, has also, in a very marked degree, the power of becoming phosphorescent during the night, in the heart of the vast Brazilian forests. In this same country, a sort of grass, which the natives call khuskhus, shines, at certain hours of the night, with a bright light. If we are to believe the tales of trustworthy travelers, in some cases horses and other animals browsing on this grass have stopped in surprise to see it suddenly give out light and surround them with flames that envelop their trembling limbs in all directions. . . .

"But if flowers have this strange property in a remarkable degree, other plants among the lichens, mosses, and fungi shine with an equally bright light in the same conditions. In the environs of Dresden, especially, there are several coal-mines where grows a small species of agaric along the shafts and galleries. It

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presents to the visitor the appearance of innumerable luminous festoons of changing colors. . . .

"The eminent naturalist Joseph Hooker thinks that the source of this phosphorescence is a slow combustion, without heat, that takes place in the mycelium of the fungi during a continual oxidation of its substance. In northern India, among the agarics that flourish there, there is a cryptogam similar to that of the Dresden mines and equally luminous.

"The *Agaricus olearius*, a common mushroom of the south of France, grows, as its name indicates, on the bark of the olive, even in its smallest crevices. It makes its appearance as a parasite of this tree in the month of November and transforms the trunk of the olive-tree into a phosphorescent mass, producing one of the most original effects that can be met with. . . .

"Quite as remarkable as the preceding is the *Agaricus Gardneri*, the parasite of a Brazilian palm. Its light, a brilliant yellowish-white, may be compared, for intensity and beauty, to that given by the tropical fireflies. Another cryptogam, a native of Borneo, growing like the preceding on various kinds of trees, gives out a light with greenish tints like that of the electric spark. When the natives see this singular light shining in the black night, they flee in terror, believing that they have seen the Evil One. . . .

"We will close by noting the interesting experiments made by Dr. Tulasne on vegetable phosphorescence. He has proved that the light emitted by mushrooms disappears completely in a vacuum or when they are plunged into a vessel that contains only irrespirable gases. He infers from this that, as Hooker asserted, there is a combination between the oxygen of the surrounding atmosphere and a substance peculiar to this plant. Such is the most probable explanation, and the one generally held by scientists, of the singular phenomenon presented by phosphorescent plants."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

EDISON ON OCEAN TELEPHONY.

THOMAS A. EDISON has not much faith in some current reports regarding coming telephonic communication between Europe and America. He was interviewed on the subject by a reporter of the New York *Herald* recently, with the following result, as related in that journal. Said the reporter:

"'If you were backed by a ten-million-dollar syndicate, would you undertake to construct a practical working telephone across the Atlantic Ocean?'

"'It is impossible,' he replied, bruskly.

"'There is a Russian who has telephoned under ten miles of water,' I continued, 'and who claims that he can easily telephone across the Atlantic Ocean. He is being backed by a syndicate, and it is said that work will shortly be commenced on a submarine telephone cable.'

"Without a word Mr. Edison picked up a pad of paper and began to figure and talk.

"'Let me see,' he began. 'The difficulty of telephoning increases according to the square root of the distance. He telephoned ten miles under water, did he? Well, he must have had some little trouble. At ten miles his difficulties are, we will say, one. At twenty miles his difficulties would be four. Then they would run up as follows:

At 40 miles	16 times as hard
At 80 miles	64 times as hard
At 150 miles	256 times as hard
At 320 miles	1,024 times as hard
At 640 miles	4,096 times as hard
At 1,280 miles	16,384 times as hard
At 2,560 miles	65,536 times as hard

"'This is about the distance across the Atlantic Ocean. Now, if that Russian can tackle and overcome a job 65,000 times as hard as telephoning under ten miles of water, he may possibly telephone across the Atlantic Ocean.'"

The inventor went on to explain that it is not a question of battery, but of leakage, the overcoming of resistance, and the impossibility of getting rid of the current at the exact time the voice ceases. He concluded as follows:

"'I will say this much about long-distance telephoning: If I could erect poles three miles high I would undertake to telephone around the earth. As you approach the earth, however, the difficulties increase greatly, as they are of such a nature that I am afraid they can never be overcome—at least not with present human intelligence.'"

Frozen Sweets in Cold Weather.—The practise of eating ices in winter is condemned by *The Hospital*, and women are said to be its chief upholders, altho probably the writer speaks for England alone. He says: "It is ladies who provide ices in midwinter for their guests; and, so far as a pretty wide and careful personal observation can be relied upon, it is ladies who eat the ices when provided. A man, be he young, middle-aged, or old, is rarely, if ever, seen partaking of an ice in the month of December. Is it, then, the fact that blood of woman is of a higher temperature than that of man; that her heart pulsates with greater vigor, that she is less subject to gastric cramps and distressing colics, or to the possibilities of mere collapse due to sudden lowering of the temperature of the body? Not one of these questions can be answered in the affirmative. The blood of woman, instead of being better able to resist the cold than that of man, is less able, the action of her heart is not so vigorous and sustained, her nervous system is much more sensitive, and her stomach more likely to be the subject of cramps, and the intestine of painful colics. Why is it, then, that wherever a party of human beings are assembled under the control and direction of the more conservative sex, whether the occasion be an at-home, or a small dining party, or a public ball, ices anywhere tempt the female palate and are partaken of at the risk of the sufferings we have mentioned, and of others there is not space to mention? It can only be that the female mind is so poor in resources that ices having once been begun, and having been found agreeable to ladies, are brought in as a matter of course all the year round, altho for the winter months they are as unsuitable for the stomach as a muslin dress would be for outside wear."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

ACCORDING to a German authority, turbid beer can be clarified by electric light. It is said that if electric lamps are suspended in the fermenting vessels the yeasty matters are rapidly deposited with the resinous, albuminous, and glutinous substances that are always present. The result is due to the light itself, not to the change in temperature.

A BANQUET was given by the Cataract Power and Conduit Company at the Ellicott Club, Buffalo, N. Y., on the night of January 12, to celebrate the successful transmission of power from Niagara Falls to Buffalo. It was, according to *The Electrical World*, "one of the most brilliant affairs of the kind ever held, and was a magnificent success in every way. The attendance, which numbered over 400, included many of Buffalo's wealthiest and most influential citizens and business men, professional men, capitalists, and about thirty eminent electrical engineers and others connected with the electrical industry in its various branches." Speeches were made by Nikola Tesla, Francis Lynde Stetson, and others.

SUNLIGHT UNDER WATER.—"Even where the depth of the sea is 1,580 feet, sunlight will penetrate if the water is very clear," says *Invention*. "Experiments which were made in the Mediterranean near Corsica, eighteen miles from the land, prove this to be the case, and the results were shown by means of photographic plates. The depths to which daylight will penetrate depends, of course, upon the transparency of the water. The Mediterranean is famous for the clearness of its depths, and will admit light to a very great depth. Usually the light of the sun at 150 feet below the water surface is no more powerful than that of the moon, but at 300 feet it is scarcely equal to the glimmer of twilight, and at 600 feet there is generally perpetual darkness. The spotted corals are plainly visible near Mindora in the Indian Ocean at 150 feet under water. The Caribbean Sea, which is of crystal clearness, shows objects at the bottom at a very great depth."

"A SUBMARINE boat for wrecking and exploring purposes," says *The Engineering News*, "is about to be built by the Columbian Iron Works, of Baltimore, after the plans of Mr. Simon Lake, a Baltimore inventor. The practicability of the design, it is stated, has been proved by experience upon a small boat. The boat will be capable of rising to the surface and submerging at will, and it may be propelled in any desired direction when on the bottom. A door may be opened, through which the occupants, by donning a diving-suit, may pass from the interior to the outside and back again. The boat will be used principally for searching the bed of the ocean adjacent to coast lines and in locating and recovering sunken vessels and their cargoes. It will be about fifty-four tons displacement and will carry a crew of six men. It will be propelled while on the surface by an engine and screw of the ordinary type, and while under water the screw will be driven by an electric motor, taking current from storage-batteries. A searchlight will light up the pathway of the vessel as she moves along the bottom."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

THE MELANCHTHON CENTENNIAL.

THE interest in the approaching quadri-centennial of Luther's great coadjutor, Philip Melanchthon, which occurs on February 16, is rapidly increasing throughout Protestant circles. In Germany the authorities of church and state have been agitating the proposed celebration for many months; and a committee of prominent scholars from all over the Fatherland has arranged for the erection of a permanent memorial building in the city of Bretten, in the Grand Duchy of Baden, where the famous savant was born. The building is to be a sort of a museum and to contain Melanchthona of all kinds, such as manuscripts, portraits, engravings, medals, editions of the reformer's works, etc.

The committee has published an appeal addressed to Protestant Christendom in which, in a nutshell, Melancthon's claim to the gratitude of posterity is set forth. The address speaks of him as follows:

"The humble servant of God; the most learned of the Reformers; the colaborer of Luther; the friend of many theologians and scholars of Germany and other lands; the author of the Augsburg Confession and of the first Evangelical dogmatics; the confessor of the Diet of Augsburg in 1530; the professor surrounded by thousands of grateful pupils; the preceptor of Germany and an authority for the whole learned world; the creator of the evangelical Protestant school system; the author of the numerous constitutions for universities and higher schools; a lover of the arts and a friend of artists; the guardian of treasures of classical antiquity and the advocate of the study of nature; the learned scholar, whose powerful mind grasped theology, jurisprudence, medicine, philosophy, pedagogics, philology, history, geography, mathematics, physics, astronomy, etc.—truly a man whose unique multifariousness constrained even the enemies of the Reformation to pay him the tribute of admiration."

Of the articles which have appeared in America on Melanchthon in recent months, the most scholarly is undoubtedly that of President Ethelbert D. Warfield, in *The Presbyterian and Reformed Review*. The warm words of appreciation here spoken are all the more significant in coming from a scholar who does not share the special doctrinal position of the Wittenberg savant. The writer states that Melanchthon accomplished what the great Erasmus had failed to do, namely, unite the two striving spirits of true religion and true learning. Dr. Warfield asserts that the address of Melanchthon at Wittenberg in 1518, when he, a mere stripling, but withal a leading authority on the Greek, entered upon his duties as professor in the newly founded university, "was the corner-stone of the new education in Germany." Dr. Warfield continues as follows:

"Compayre, the well-known French writer on pedagogy, criticizes Melanchthon as having 'worked more for high-schools than schools for the people,' the latter task being left to Luther and Sturm. But as a scarcely less distinguished writer upon educational topics points out (Oscar Browning 'Educational Theories,' p. 46), 'the division of Christendom wrought by the Reformation left Protestantism without organized institutions for carrying forward the work of higher education, and it was in a large measure due to the labors of Melanchthon that the new learning became a part of the heritage of the Protestant churches. . . . Students thronged his lecture-room. The whole university sat at his feet. He put forth a Latin grammar on new principles; he prepared elementary treatises on logic and dialectics, on rhetoric, on physical science, on psychology, and on ethics. These were of inestimable value to Germany, as yet without schools, schoolmasters, or books breathing the spirit of the new learning.

"Luther finally won for his closest comrade the youthful Melanchthon. It was a strong alliance. All the elements of the age—peasant, burger, and noble rank; political, social, and theological progress; intellectual, moral, and religious thirst—were well represented. Frederick was the strongest political force in Germany; Melanchthon was not inferior to any contemporary as a man of intellect and learning; Luther was a great glowing soul, aflame with love to God and man, bold, capable, imaginative, simple."

Dr. Warfield's article is not devoid of criticism of Melanchthon. He writes:

"With a noble spirit of fellowship he sometimes showed a weak spirit of compromise, yielding too much to Romanism in the interims, surrendering the Lutheran position on the Will to a semi-pelagian synergism, and again and again showing that he was better fitted to counsel and instruct than to maintain a system or lead a movement."

THE YEAR 1896 IN THE CHURCHES.

IT has been the custom of *The Independent* for a long period to publish at the beginning of each year a review of the religious progress of the year preceding as shown in the annual statistical exhibits of each of the denominations or sects. These exhibits are supplemented by reports and reviews of the year written by prominent members of the sects represented. In its issue of January 7, *The Independent* devoted thirteen pages to this annual exposition of the progress and present situation of the churches in this country. Two of the most important tables are those showing the number of communicants in each of the religious bodies, as reported, and the gains for the year 1896. These two tables united give the following result:

Denominations.	*Com.*	*Gains.*
Adventists, 6 bodies	77,293	3,981
Baptists, 13 bodies	4,153,857	85,318
Brethren (River), 3 bodies	3,427	.....
Brethren (Plymouth), 4 bodies	6,661	.....
Catholics, 6 bodies	8,287,048	272,137
Catholic Apostolic	1,491	97
Chinese Temples	.....	.....
Christadelphians	1,277	.....
Christians, 2 bodies	120,000	9,750
Christian Missionary Association	754	.....
Christian Scientists	25,000	16,276
Christian Union	18,215	.....
Church of God	36,000	.....
Church Triumphant	384	.....
Church of the New Jerusalem	7,527	121
Communistic Societes, 7 bodies	3,950	.....
Congregationalists	622,557	20,000
Disciples of Christ	1,003,672	80,009
Dunkards, 4 bodies	83,475	2,081
Evangelical, 2 bodies	148,783	2,879
Friends, 4 bodies	116,989	2,278
Friends of the Temple	340	.....
German Evangelical Protestants	36,500	.....
German Evangelical Synod	186,000	797
Jews, 2 bodies	139,500	.....
Latter-Day Saints, 2 bodies	234,000	.....
Lutherans, 19 bodies	1,420,905	30,130
Waldenstromians	20,000	.....
Mennonites, 12 bodies	52,044	5,275
Methodists, 17 bodies	5,653,289	168,776
Moravians	13,617	691
Presbyterians, 12 bodies	1,460,346	1,347
Protestant Episcopal, 2 bodies	645,556	19,276
Reformed, 3 bodies	348,471	4,490
Salvationists, 2 bodies	40,000	6,500
Schwenkfeldians	306	.....
Social Brethren	913	.....
Society for Ethical Culture	1,064	.....
Spiritualists	45,030	.....
Theosophical Society	3,000	500
United Brethren, 2 bodies	271,035	8,085
Unitarians	70,000	1,500
Universalists	49,025	1,039
Independent congregations	14,126	.....
Total	25,342,333	743,333

One of the most interesting facts disclosed by these figures is the remarkable growth of the denomination known as the Disciples of Christ during the year 1896. A gain of 80,009 is unprecedented in a church which until recently was comparatively unknown. The exceedingly small gains of the Presbyterian bodies are due, we are told in a footnote, to better returns than before

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reported. The formidable gains of the Christian Scientists, 16,276, are the aggregate gains for six years, since 1890.

Among the individual reports in *The Independent* there are several which may be mentioned because of their special interest. Thus, Mr. F. D. Richards, who writes as the historian of The Latter-Day Saints, says:

"Our numbers are steadily increasing, and we feel assured that when people are converted to a thorough understanding of and a belief in the Gospel of Jesus Christ (which we regard as an absolute panacea for all the ills of mankind), so plainly taught by Him and His Apostles, they are sure to improve in all wholesome and good thoughts, words, and actions. . . .

"Let me impress upon you that our aim is not only to make proselytes of honest seekers after light and truth, but the paramount object is to warn all nations and peoples of the second coming of our Lord and Redeemer, and of the final consummation of His holy will respecting the 'dispensation of the fulness of times,' which objects are very clearly foreshadowed in Holy Writ.

"We are sending new recruits into the missionary fields of America, Europe, and the islands of the seas in answer to repeated calls for information and help, and our elders are meeting with gratifying encouragement in most every field of labor, not being subjected to as much abuse and persecutions as in former times."

The report concerning the Christian Scientists speaks of the increase of 42 "chartered churches during the year and 4 Christian Science institutes." Other statements concerning this body are as follows:

"The increase in church attendance for 1896 has been about 200 per cent. The active ministry of the body composed of official church-readers (these correspond to the ministers in other churches), missionaries and healers, who devote their whole time to the healing of the sick, through the established methods of Christian Science, is over 6,000, and is being rapidly increased by the acquisition of many trained nurses, surgeons, and physicians of high standing from both schools of *materia medica*, as well as many consecrated men and women from the walks of mercantile, social, religious, and literary life. . . . The chief aim of the movement is the restoration of the primitive Christianity of Jesus through the healing of the sick and the reformation of the depraved by *one* and the *same* method. The last year has shown an entire change of attitude on the part of the press and of the thinking world toward Christian Science, both as a religion and a method of healing."

Of the Volunteers of America, a new organization, Commander-in-Chief Ballington Booth writes as follows:

"Of the growth of the Volunteers during 1897 we can hardly write too hopefully. If since the 9th of March, when inaugurated, they have entered over 120 cities, organizing over 150 separate societies, and have raised nearly 450 commanding officers, attracting some 400,000 persons to their meetings monthly, surely it is safe to affirm that such consecrated effort and organized enthusiasm will more than double the radius of its influence and the results of its work during the new year. Surely our army of reformed inebriates will bring steadiness to the step and brightness to the eye of at least double their own number; and we can confidently predict that those of our congregations composed of the wage-earning classes will be so multiplied by the new fields opened as to witness far larger rallyings in 1897."

In an editorial review of these statistics and reports *The Independent* says:

"The great work of the churches is indicated in their conversions and additions to church-membership. The more pervasive the revival influence the larger the accessions and the steadier the yearly growth. Of great revival meetings there were none in 1896; but there must have been, nevertheless, large accessions, because our tables of statistics show a net increase considerably larger than that for 1895. This net increase of well on toward three quarters of a million could not have been made if the additions had not been considerably greater. The number of members is being constantly reduced by death, by expulsion, and other causes; and the figures would cease to climb if these losses were not more than made good by accessions. While the table is less complete than we could wish, it is evident that the bodies which make the most gains are, first, the Catholic; second, the Methodist; third, the Baptist; fourth, the Disciples of Christ, and fifth, the Lutherans. The Disciples form one of our most vigorous denominations. Its power of growth is astonishing. It must now be classed with the few bodies which have a million and more members. The net gains of the Presbyterian branches, as a whole, are disappointing. That they are so small is due largely to a shrinkage in the Cumberland branch, which drops the estimates of former years for a large number of unreporting churches. The Congregational and Episcopal churches report an increase of about 20,000 each. There are no decreases except in a very few instances, and these are due, not to a decline in numbers, but to better statistics.

"The gain in ministers is swollen by the five-year increase of the Christian Scientists, a body which appears to be growing quite vigorously. It is not improbable that the figures given are extremely liberal. Not only pastors and readers, but also practitioners and healers are included. The total net gain is really about 5,000, which is a handsome increase. We have now a ministerial force of 137,000 in round numbers, with upward of 180,000 churches. The gain in churches is nearly 3,700.

"Who can say that the gains in ministers, churches, and members in what most will agree was an off year are not encouraging? Where is the pessimist who can find in the results evidence of failure and prophecy of decline? Who can consider those magnificent figures representing the grand aggregate of religious forces in the United States, nearly twenty-five and a half millions, and say that religion has no power over the people of the United States? Among all these millions there are no pagans. All but a small fraction are Christians. Making allowance for all possible exceptions, we have considerably over 25,000,000 left, of which two thirds are Protestant and one third Catholic."

THE NEW RECTOR OF THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY.

BY a letter dated at Rome, November 23, 1896, the Pope notified Cardinal Gibbons of the selection of Dr. Thomas James Conaty as a successor to Bishop Keane in the rectorship of the Catholic University of America. Doctor Conaty has since been installed. *The Catholic Union and Times*, of Buffalo, gives what *The Catholic Reading Circle Review* assures us is an "excellent and authentic" sketch of Doctor Conaty's career. From this it appears that he was born in Kilnaleck, County Cavan, Ireland, in 1847, coming to this country four years later. He received a public-school education in Taunton, Mass., and subsequently graduated from Montreal College and Holy Cross College, Worcester, Mass., being ordained a priest in 1873. The sketch continues as follows:

"An ardent believer in the principles of total abstinence, his influence was directed toward promoting that movement. In Philadelphia, August 4, 1887, he was elected president of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America. He has since then been prominently identified with the temperance cause. In January, 1880, he was assigned to his present charge, the Church of the Sacred Heart, Worcester.

"For thirteen years he was one of the Commissioners of Education of Worcester. He also served a term of six years as trustee of the Free Public Library.

"Identifying himself with the Irish cause in the early days of the Land League, he served as treasurer of the Parnell fund and chairman of the committee on resolutions at the Buffalo and Chicago conventions. At the Philadelphia convention he was the acknowledged leader of the conservative party. He has lectured in all parts of the country on the Irish question, education, and temperance. His pulpit utterances have placed him in the front rank among his clerical brethren.

"He has contributed frequently to the magazines on the questions of education and total abstinence. Besides his many duties, he edits and publishes a periodical, *The Catholic School and Home Magazine*.

"At the centennial of Georgetown University in February, 1889,

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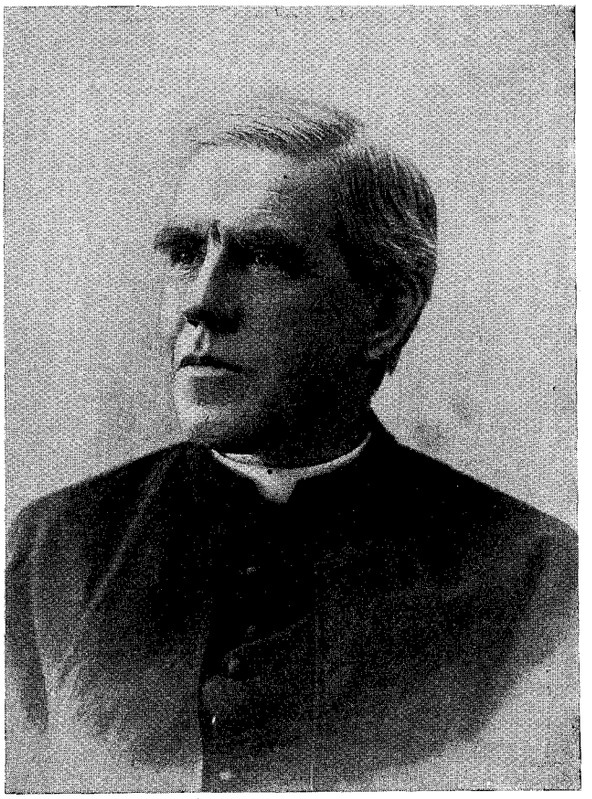
the degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him. In October, 1894, he was selected to read a paper before the conference of Unitarian churches at Saratoga on 'The Catholic Church in Its Relation to Temperance.' This paper made a deep and favorable impression at the conference.

"Since the inauguration of the summer-school movement, his



By courtesy of *The Catholic World.*

REV. THOMAS J. CONATY.

great talents and splendid energies have been directed toward promoting the cause. For the past four years Dr. Conaty has acted as president of the Catholic summer school on Lake Champlain."

Dr. Conaty is further said to be "a thorough American in his sympathies and education," and to be among the foremost orators on the American platform, with "striking physique," "commanding presence," and "a musical voice of much power."

POPE LEO AS A POET.

POPE LEO XIII. has written a new poem, an ode on the fourteenth centenary of the baptism of Clovis. It is the longest poem he has yet written, consisting of nineteen four-line stanzas. The verses were read out—fortunate poet!—by the Archbishop in the Cathedral at Reims last Christmas Day.

The London *Academy* in a brief review of the poem refers first to verses written by Pope Leo when he was but twenty years of age and seemed to have premonitions of early death. Says the reviewer:

"The cracked-plate theory applies also to a sickly constitution—it often lasts longest. The Pope is more than eighty-seven years of age; but when he was only twenty he composed some verses on his health—you would say the health of a dying man. He addresses himself when he says:

'Wakeful till latest night, thy limbs in vain
Court needful rest; nor sleep nor food restore
The strength unknown—thine eyes, all darkened o'er,
Dejected sink, while racked the head with pain.

'Fever consumes thee; chill, as ice congeals,
Or parched with burning thirst. Pallid as death
Each several feature; toils the weary breath—
Through all thy fainting form the languor steals.

'Why dream of future years with promise bland,
While Fate swift urges? Then I said: 'No fear
My spirit shall quell! Death draws, indeed, so near?'
Cheerful I wait, to grasp his bony hand.

'"No fading joys allurement offer now;
All undelayed I pant for bliss superne!
Glad as when wanderer's footsteps home return,
Or sailor when to harbor veers his prow.'"

There, where you least expect it, is the note of Mr. Henley and of Stevenson. 'No fear my spirit shall quell,' says the Pope in the mood of Mr. Henley's 'I am the captain of my fate'; and Stevenson's 'Gladly I die,' with his sailor home from the sea and his huntsman home from the hill, has an almost exact counterpart in the closing lines of Leo XIII.'s early verses. Later, but still with Death as a friend in view, the Pope composed some lines as an inscription on his own portrait."

The poems written since then by the Pope constitute him "the most various and considerable versifier of all the Petrine line." We quote what *The Academy* says of the late ode, written (we assume) in Latin, as all his other poems are written:

"The various verses review events of French history; and they are particularly curious as illustrations of the partiality of the reigning pontiff for France—the only country, except his own, whose language he can speak with fluency and whose literature he can read. England, however, will hardly resent, and Mr. Andrew Lang will hail, the allusion to Joan of Arc, who found

'In Heaven the strength whereby she drove from France
The English sword and lance.'

But Germany, who has more recent memories, is conscious that this said Clovis sung by the Pope was he who was victorious over the Teuton, and the first two lines of the stanzas which close the poem, despite the pious proviso which follows, may yet be a nursery of international jealousies:

'Forever, while the ages shall advance,
Flourish above all lands the land of France!
Provided that the Holy Faith be still
The goal of all her will:
Nothing before Christ's faith; nor fortunate
Is aught for long without it. Hence your state
Drew her old fame. And may this still be all
The glory of the Gaul!'"

MR. MOODY AND HIS CRITICS.

SOME statements made by Mr. Moody in his recent sermons and newspaper articles concerning the condition and outlook of the Christian churches at the present day have been the occasion, as has been shown in these columns, of a great deal of comment in the press, secular and religious. Exception has been taken in particular to certain conclusions drawn by Mr. Moody from published statistics showing that a large number of Congregational and Presbyterian churches had reported no additions on profession of faith during the year 1896 (see LITERARY DIGEST, January 9). It is contended that the statistics referred to were misleading and that they formed no basis in themselves for such an alarming cry as Mr. Moody has raised. It is with reference to this matter that a contributor to *The United Presbyterian* writes as follows:

"A true statement of facts is often misleading, and it is especially so in this instance. To affirm that so large a number of churches report no additions on profession of faith would naturally lead one to imagine that Presbyterianism is on the down grade, and that, by and by, somebody will have a chance to write 'Ichabod' on her walls. It is proposed here to institute a little comparison, which will show that these fears are utterly without foundation in fact.

"As Americans, we are all justly proud of the wonderful growth in the population of our country. Indeed, some are already beginning to think that our pride is fast becoming a snare to us, and that we would do well to close our gates and write over

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them, 'No admittance, except on business.' We are growing tired of 'the lame and the lazy'; or to put it in plain language: We no longer welcome the pauper and criminal classes of Europe and Asia. We are growing in numbers too fast for our accommodations. Now, let us see how well the Presbyterian Church has been keeping pace with this tremendous growth. Taking the census of 1870 as a base, the growth of our population up to 1890 was 62.5 per cent., or at the rate of 8.12 per cent. per annum. Our church, estimated on the same principle, increased during those years, 73.75 per cent., or at a yearly rate of 3.69 per cent. For the ten years ending 1890, our population increased 24.86 per cent., or 2.49 per cent. annually. The increase of the Presbyterian Church for the same period was 34 per cent., or 3.4 per cent. each year. The annual increase of our population since 1890, when the last census was made, has probably continued at about 2.5 per cent.; our branch of the church has increased during these six years 21.62 per cent., or 3.6 per cent. yearly.

DWIGHT L. MOODY.

"These comparisons show that our church's per cent. of growth is to that of country as 7 is to 5. Surely that does not indicate that the pulpit is losing its power, or that our ministers have quit preaching practical truth."

With reference to other criticisms visited upon Mr. Moody recently, *The Independent* and *The Congregationalist* come to his defense. Thus the former says:

"One minister says the evangelist is irreverent, not deliberately but on account of the excitement. He tells stories that ought not to be told outside the family circle. Another says Mr. Moody is not intellectual.

"Mr. Moody has not college culture, he does not preach polished, intellectual sermons, he does not belong to the school of scientific biblical critics: nevertheless he has strong intellectual powers, he knows his English Bible far better than many highly educated ministers, he has a tremendous grip on the great truths of the Gospel; and there are few preachers in this or any other country who can present and enforce these truths with equal force. Intellectual sermons do not necessarily raise the pulpit; nor do Moody's plain, ungrammatical discourses lower it. Peter did not lower the Apostolic pulpit, tho he was less intellectual than Paul.

"But Mr. Moody, it is complained, preaches against the sins of the age. Of course he does, and that is the right use of the Gospel. The Gospel means salvation from sins. 'Thou shalt call his name Jesus; for he shall save his people from their sins.' What sins? Sins of the age? Certainly. Not the sins of past ages. We have nothing to do with the sins of preceding generations; it is the sins of the age, of to-day, our sins, that we are concerned about; and we need the plain truth of the Gospel to show them to us as God sees them, abhorrent, deadly, wicked. Does it lower the medical profession to treat of terrible diseases? Does it lower the judiciary to deal with awful crimes? The preacher must preach righteousness, and he must hold up God's standard against all unrighteousness, if he would be a faithful ambassador of Christ, who brought the sins of professing believers of his day home to them."

In an editorial note on the same general subject *The Congregationalist* has this to say:

"Mr. Moody freely criticizes ministers and churches, and naturally enough they criticize him. He perhaps would admit that he is as much open to criticism as they are. But no one can know Mr. Moody, or hear him speak or join with him in prayer, without the conviction that he loves the church with all his heart, that he longs intensely for the salvation of men, that he lives near to God and wants to get nearer to Him. His impatience with Christians for not living holier lives and working more earnestly to win others to Christ is just the feeling that he exercises toward himself. He has long had, and continues to have, wonderful evidence that he is used by God to bring men to repentance for sin and into new life in Christ. We say, God bless him for that and bless his work. For every sinner born anew by the Holy Spirit through Mr. Moody's preaching and every Christian lifted to a higher plane of spiritual life we thank God. The church will survive unjust criticism from those who seek her prosperity, and will gain strength through every impulse toward holiness aroused by the trumpet-calls of men who feel, as Mr. Moody does, the Word of God in their hearts as a fire shut up in their bones."

The Watchman (Baptist, Boston) also has an observation to offer in this same general line. It says:

"We doubt whether Mr. Moody and 'Sam' Jones, who appear just now to be putting the main emphasis of their preaching upon the sins of church-members, are altogether true to their own best ideals. There are in every community some professed Christians who bring an open shame upon the churches. There are some who lead double lives, and there are others who are built upon the principle of the water-tight compartment. The religion that is in one section of their natures never by any possibility mingles with their business or their pleasures. Still, after making all these deductions, it remains true that the church-members of the United States, as a class, live clean and honest lives. They are sincere people, who seek to practise what they believe."

RECENT BABYLONIAN DISCOVERIES.

MUCH has been published concerning the excavations which have been carried on by the expedition of the University of Pennsylvania among the ruins of Nippur, in northern Babylonia. Innumerable remains of a civilization that flourished at least 8,000 years ago have been discovered, and texts that furnish us with a continuous history of Babylonia since that period. These discoveries are among the most important of modern times, and have been reinforced by the finding at ancient Telloh, in the extreme south of Chaldea, by a French expedition, of a "library," containing 33,000 clay tablets, formed 5,000 years ago. Telloh, however, was but a provincial town of Babylonia, while Nippur, or Niffer, or Nuffar, was the center of ancient Babylonian civilization. In THE LITERARY DIGEST last September (September 12, p. 618) a description of the "find" made by Professor Hilprecht, the historian of the expedition, and his associates, was given. We find in *The Contemporary Review* (January) an article on the same subject by Prof. A. H. Sayce, from which we quote the following extract:

"Nippur was, in fact, one of the oldest seats of Babylonian religion and civilization. Its great temple, dedicated to the god called by the Sumerians Mul-lil or El-lil, 'the lord of the ghost-world,' was coeval with the beginnings of Chaldean history. Here the old Shamanistic beliefs of Sumerian Babylonia, which peopled the universe with innumerable spirits, were first organized into an official cult. In later days, when Semitic rulers took the place of the Sumerian princes, and Semitic priests succeeded to the sorcerers and magicians of an earlier age, the Sumerian Mul-lil became the Semitic Bel or Baal, to whom this earth and the under-world were assigned as a domain. The Bel of Nippur, however, eventually faded into the background before the younger Bel-Merodach of Babylon. When Babylon was made the capital of a united Babylonia, its god assumed supremacy over the other deities of the Babylonian cities, and the older Bel was relegated to a subordinate place.

"It is among the ruins of the temple of this older Bel that the American excavators have been working. For the first time in Babylonia they have systematically carried their shafts through

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the various strata of historical remains which occupy the site, carefully noting the objects found in each, and wherever possible clearing each stage away when once it had been thoroughly examined. The work began in 1888, about two hundred Arabs being employed as laborers. For two seasons, until May 1890, the excavations were continued under the direction of Dr. Peters. The site was surveyed, trial trenches were dug, and systematic

PROFESSOR HERMAN V. HILPRECHT.

exploration made in certain places. Among the objects discovered were about ten thousand tablets and inscribed fragments, some of which go back to the earliest epoch of Chaldean history. Then for three years the work of the expedition was discontinued, but in the spring of 1893 it was resumed more vigorously than ever by Mr. J. H. Haynes. For three full years it was carried on, with an interruption of only two months. What this meant can best be understood by the fact that Mr. Haynes's one European companion, Dr. Meyer, succumbed after a few months to the pestilential atmosphere of the Babylonian marshes, and during the rest of the time Mr. Haynes was left to fight single-handed against fevers, and Bedâwin, and all the usual difficulties which attend excavations in the Ottoman dominions.

"As Professor Hilprecht says: 'It was indeed no easy task for any European or American to dwell thirty-four months near these insect-breeding and pestiferous Affej swamps, where the temperature in perfect shade rises to the enormous height of 120° F., where the stifling sand-storms from the desert rob the tent of its shadow and parch the human skin with the heat of a furnace, where the ever-present insects bite and sting and buzz through day and night, while cholera is lurking at the threshold of the camp, and treacherous Arabs are planning robbery and murder; and yet during all these wearisome hours to fulfil the duties of three ordinary men.'

"But the task was at last accomplished, and the excavations at Nippur were carried deeply and widely enough not only to reveal the history of the city itself but also to open up a new vista in the forgotten history of civilized man.

"The history of civilization has been taken back into ages which a short while since were still undreamed of. Professor Hilprecht, the historian of the expedition, upon whom has fallen the work of copying, publishing, and translating the multitudinous texts discovered in the course of it, declares that we can no longer 'hesitate to date the founding of the temple of Bel and the first settlements in Nippur somewhere between 6,000 and 7000 B.C., possibly even earlier.' At any rate the oldest monuments which have been disinterred there belong to the fifth or sixth millennium before the Christian era. Hitherto we have been accustomed to regard Egypt as the land which has preserved for us the earliest written monuments of mankind, but Babylonia now bids fair to outrival Egypt."

Professor Sayce retaliates upon some of the German critics who have made merry over the credulity of Assyriologists for accepting as authentic the inscriptions of Nabonidos, fixing the date of the reign of Sargon, hitherto "the earliest fixed date in Babylonian history." The discoveries at Nippur, says the Professor, vindicate the Assyriologists and discredit German criticism. But the tablets unearthed at Nippur carry the history back far beyond Sargon; and yet do not reach the beginnings of Babylonian civilization. Says Professor Sayce again:

"It would seem that the temple of Mul-lil must have been founded at least as early as 6000 B.C. And yet, as far back as we can penetrate, we still find inscribed monuments and other evidences of civilization. It is true that the characters are rude and hardly yet lifted above their pictorial forms. They have, however, ceased to be pictures, and have already become that cursive script which we call cuneiform. For the beginnings of Babylonian writing we have still to search among the relics of centuries that lie far behind the foundation of the temple of Nippur."

Dr. Hale's Report on Church Entertainments.—The caustic article by Rev. Dr. W. B. Hale in the December *Forum* (LITERARY DIGEST, January 9) has aroused some strong protests. *Zion's Herald* (Boston, Meth. Episc.) has taken the pains to inquire into each case in which a Methodist church was involved in Dr. Hale's report, the inquiry consisting in a note to the pastor of each church. In its issue of January 13 the replies are published. In one case no reply was received. In another, the reported entertainment is said never to have occurred. In the four other cases, the entertainments are described as in no way offensive or improper. The editor concludes with the following:

"Our inquiries force us to the conclusion that Dr. Hale is an utterly unreliable reporter of the charges which he has assumed to make. It seems that he has taken the newspaper reports sent him as authority, and has presented as facts the worst features given, without making any inquiry, even of churches near at hand, concerning the truth of the allegations made. Starting out with the determination that he will make a case against the churches, he uses, with adroit and forceful skill, and with no real knowledge of the declarations in hand, the most sensational charges of a sensational press. We first read Dr. Hale's article with grateful sympathy, believing he was doing good service to Christianity in his revelations. Our investigation constrains us to say that he is neither an authentic historian nor a reliable witness. He both traduces the churches and misleads the general public."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

A NEW sect has sprung up in Brazil, which is headed by one Antonio Conselheiro, who calls himself "The Good Jesus." He and his followers swoop down upon the villages, take possession of them, and appoint one of their own number as governor. There was lately a hot conflict between them and the state troops—about 150 of Conselheiro's followers being killed. It is said that he is in league with the monarchist faction.

The Christian World, of London, declares that "the Anglican clergy, relieved by the last election from imminent disestablishment, are threatened with a danger nearer home. The 'revolt of the daughters' has extended to the parsonage. A clergyman's daughter voices the movement in a letter to a contemporary, in which she complains of the too ecclesiastical atmosphere of the clerical home. The vicar, his wife, his curate, persistently talk 'shop.' 'Parish work, parish meetings, schools, clubs, services, decorations, diocesan, parochial, and clerical chit-chat form the staple of family conversation.' Under these circumstances the younger ones, we are told, 'long to fling up the windows of their mind' to admit a little more fresh air, and secretly resolve on leading a wider life as soon as they have the opportunity."

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FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

THE ARBITRATION TREATY IN CANADA.

OUR Canadian contemporaries rejoice, one and all, over the possibility of lasting harmony between Great Britain and the United States. In view of the temper of the United States Senate, however, they are inclined to think that the news is too good to be true.

The Monetary Times, Toronto, fears that the treaty is in some danger, owing to the jealousy of the Senators, who begrudge the President and the Secretary their glory. "But," adds the paper, "in any case Great Britain and President Cleveland and Mr. Olney have done their duty." *The Sun*, St. John, N. B., says:

"We can not know to-day how far this treaty may be useful in averting war between two kindred peoples or among other nations. At present comfort may be found in the fact that the agreement represents a strong desire on the part of two governments that peace shall be maintained between the countries they represent. . . . The weak point of the arbitration tribunal as a machine for settling disputes is that five of the six judges must agree to the finding. The history of arbitrations between Great Britain and the United States does not support the hope of a majority of five to one, where each nation has the appointment of three arbitrators. The judges appointed are no doubt conscientious in their decisions, but as a rule they find their own country right. . . . We therefore apprehend that the proposed scheme will not be found very effective in disposing of grave territorial disputes. It will not furnish the majority of five to one in any grave case.

"A peaceful purpose will be served, however, even in those territorial matters. The attempt to arbitrate must precede hostile action, and an attempt to mediate must come between them. This means long delay and time for serious reflection. War can not be declared in haste and therefore is less likely to be declared. Finally, it may be noted that the agreement lasts only for five years, and is therefore rather to be accepted as a pledge of amicable feeling and friendly purpose than as a safeguard against war."

The Toronto *World* fears that the United States, wishing to be recognized as a predominant power on this continent, will object to the treaty because it makes no mention of the Monroe doctrine, which many Americans regard as an article of international law rather than an expression of private opinion. But *The World* thinks that the treaty should be passed to gain time in case of international disputes. It says:

YOUNG CANUCK (catching on behind Mr. Bull and Miss Columbia): "Here's hopin' they may go on forever and never fall out."
—*The World*, *Toronto*.

"However much the flaw-pickers may object to the proposed treaty, their opposition falls flat in the light of a provision of the convention which gives either party the right to make the award invalid by merely protesting against it. The treaty really binds neither nation as to the award. It is merely a legal provision insuring a reasonable discussion of all matters in dispute between the two countries instead of leaving their settlement to national prejudice and momentary passion. It gives the nation time to regain its senses after an outbreak of passion and to express its second sober thought."

The Witness thinks the United States Senators are traitors to the Anglo-Saxon race if they do not pass the treaty. The Montreal *Herald* thinks there is no middle course. England and the United States must be warm friends, unless they are to be bitter enemies. *The Globe*, Toronto, hopes that the jingo element in the United States will favor the treaty "to spite poor Canada, whose hopes of annexation are damped by the treaty." Principal Grant, who is not much in favor of the Venezuela settlement, writes in *The Queen's Quarterly* as follows:

"But the British people would welcome any settlement with Venezuela if there was tacked on to it provision for a general board of arbitration to settle all disputed questions between them and their kinsfolk. Faith in the principle of arbitration has taken possession of the best people of both countries; and it is a good thing, therefore, that it is to be tried in a simple form and under favorable auspices. Even if the court does nothing else it will serve as a buffer and give time for reflection. Our neighbors need that above everything else; for they are a sentimental and sensation-loving people, and they will now be able to get up steam to any extent simply that they may blow it off into space. New York markets will no longer go to pieces even if a President should rage and Congress pass warlike resolutions without a day's delay and without a dissenting voice."

On the whole, however, the treaty is regarded as an evidence of the high state of civilization reached by the English-speaking races, and the majority of our Canadian contemporaries express themselves in terms of which the following excerpt from the Fredericton, N. B., *Herald* may serve as a sample:

"The signing of the treaty is certainly an event of stupendous importance, and marks a great advance step in the history of the two nations. It is indeed, as a London journal puts it, the event of the nineteenth century, and is a fitting circumstance for the closing years of Victoria's long reign. No doubt President Cleveland will regard it also as the grandest event of his official career, and civilized nations the world over will rejoice that the two most enlightened, most cultivated, and most Christianized nations of the globe have reached such a wise and satisfactory conclusion."

THE ARBITRATION TREATY IN EUROPE.

THE arbitration treaty is commented upon favorably everywhere with regard to its intent, but there is much divergence of opinion about its possible effect. Many of our European contemporaries regard it as a step in the direction of universal peace. Others believe that it is merely a promise on the part of England and the United States to cease the petty quarrels in which they are frequently engaged. Some think it a smart move on the part of England to raise her prestige without the expense of heavy armaments, for which the moral and perhaps the practical support of the United States will be substituted. A good sample of the most enthusiastic commentators is *The Daily Chronicle*, London, which says:

"The cause of peace—mightiest of all the causes on which hangs the future of humanity—may well be better served by showing how even an empire, menaced at a thousand points and jealous to punctilio of all its rights, can adopt the principle of arbitration frankly, and yet risk nothing to which even a timid Minister can reasonably object. So long as the treaty stands, the

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doors of that court of nations will be always open; and if its action did nothing else it can not fail at least to interpose between the outbreak and the arbitrament of any quarrel a period of rational discussion on acknowledged principles of law."

Some papers suggest that the treaty is likely to produce a false sense of security in England, and cause the British Empire to neglect its defenses.

The St. James's Gazette, London, says:

"The treaty is satisfactory, but it has its dangers. Where the dispute bears on territorial matters or on a 'question of principle of grave general importance affecting national rights as distinguished from private rights,' the award, to be binding, must be agreed on by five out of the six members of the tribunal of arbitration; which is practically an impossible condition. In such a case there is to be no King of Sweden and Norway or other independent umpire. . . . Where we may go wrong is in forgetting this. When we see, one after another, the minor questions which would in the ordinary way have been disposed of by the Foreign Offices, submitted to the arbitral tribunals, we may get ourselves into the state of mind in which we shall believe that *every* question will be so settled, and that, so far as the United States is concerned, we may dismiss from consideration the thought that we shall ever have to defend our interests by other means than the arguments of counsel. This would be a real peril for both nations; but more particularly for us, who are never likely to be the aggressors. When the aggression comes—as come it may—we shall be thrown off our balance, materially and morally, if we have been counting too confidently on the protection provided by the new method."

The Westminster Gazette says:

"We are afraid that this treaty will not be necessarily a precedent for Europe. The great difficulty of arbitration in Europe is that it must rest on the *status quo:*

"Arbitration must proceed, like law, from titles, which in international relations are treaties. It can only say that such and such a nation ought by existing treaties to be in possession of such and such territory, and it must therefore, if it is to cover all cases, take the existing state of things and crystallize it from the moment of its start. When a pushful and vigorous race overflows upon the territory of a weak and decaying neighbor, it must, according to the only rules of justice known to it, turn back the first and confirm and reestablish the second. . . . We wish to say nothing cynical, but who can look about him and fail to feel that justice and morality are not all the factors which determine the dealings of nations, but that physical force and sheer superiority in numbers and vigor are at the root of a large number of the claims which one country makes against another?"

A portion of the Continental press is inclined to deny that England and America have established an extraordinary and far-reaching precedent. The *Tageblatt*, Graz, sees nothing remarkable in the treaty. Austria-Hungary, Germany, and Italy, three countries whose interests are often in conflict, and who have fought with each other in the second half of the present century, managed to form an alliance to preserve the peace of Europe. It would be strange, thinks the paper, if two nations whose interests are so much akin as those of England and the United States could not agree that they will settle disputes without flying at each other's throats right off. But many European papers hold views in accordance with those of *The Two Republics*, an American paper published in Mexico. Our contemporary, whose business it is to foster American interests in the great Spanish-American Republic, says:

"Such an agreement on the surface seems to be simply what it reads; but it undoubtedly means a great deal more. It means that there will be no more talk of British isolation among the European powers who are neighborly enough while England is armed to the eyebrows. It means also that the Monroe doctrine has ceased to be a fancy or hobby of the United States, but that it has taken its place among the unwritten international laws and will have to be respected as such. The Anglo-American arbitration treaty was a great instrument."

The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, Berlin, a highly official paper, expresses itself to the following effect:

It is quite natural that England, whose position among the nations has been acquired without the expenditure of much exertion, and while the other nations of Europe were too busy to notice what England was doing, now seeks to preserve her unduly large share of the world's surface by means of treaties. There is an immense amount of humbug in this show of love between the English and Americans. Both nations think they can Anglicize the world, but other peoples have little reason to assist them in doing so by fostering the degrading idea of universal peace. If, therefore, President Cleveland includes the great powers of Europe among the nations which will follow the example of the United States, he is likely to hit very wide of the mark. The ordinary diplomatic machinery will suffice for the settlement of money questions in Europe. Territorial questions are much more important to European countries than to England and the United States, which are separated by the ocean.

The *Journal des Débats*, Paris, says:

"There was every reason to hope that such a treaty would be formed. Between these two nations hardly any difficulties arise that do not come within the scope of arbitration, and there is a tendency to consolidation among the English-speaking races. Moreover, on both sides, and particularly on the side of England, much consideration has been shown. Still, unpleasant surprises have occurred. American jingoism has injured American interests as much at the time of the Venezuelan affair as now with regard to Cuba. The existence of a machinery for arbitration, always ready to act, will no longer allow American brutality in international matters to have its way. England and the United States are concluding an arbitration treaty not for specific cases, but against every difficulty that may arise between them. This phase of the transaction necessarily interests the whole civilized world."

The *Volks-Zeitung*, Cologne, and the *Germania*, Berlin, praise the treaty highly, and attribute it to the exertions of the Catholic Church in America. The *Volks-Zeitung* says:

"The success of this treaty is likely to lead to others. If the endeavors of the Pan-American Congress of 1889 should meet with success in future, lasting peace will have been established for 120,000,000 of people in America, and millions of English-speaking people outside of it. In no little degree this is due to the earnest work of the archbishops of Baltimore, Armagh, and Westminster on behalf of the treaty."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

DOES THE GOTHENBURG SYSTEM INCREASE DRUNKENNESS?

RESTRICTIONS upon the barter and sale of intoxicating liquor have not been attended with the expected results in Norway. Drunkenness has increased, and at such a rate that it is considered by some impossible to attribute it to anything but the Gothenburg system. It has become customary with Norwegians of all classes to keep as large a stock of liquor in the house as their means will permit, and steady tippling is the result. Some data regarding the increase of drunkenness are published by the *Dagbladet*, Christiania, together with a comparison which, to our Norwegian contemporary, seems convincing that the Gothenburg system is at fault. The *Dagbladet* compares Copenhagen with its own city. We quote the following from its remarks:

"There is little, if any, difference in the national character of the Norwegians and the Danes. Yet the statistics of the police courts show a most remarkable difference with regard to the sobriety of the inhabitants of Christiania and Copenhagen. Copenhagen has 340,000 inhabitants. In the years 1893, 1894, and 1895, 6,250 to 6,750 arrests for drunkenness were made. Christiania has 180,000 inhabitants, and arrests for drunkenness formerly were at the same ratio as in the Danish capital. But since the introduction of the Gothenburg system drunkenness has increased enormously in Christiania, and in 1896 there were no less than 10,500 arrests, when there should have been hardly 3,000.

"Restriction in the sale of liquor evidently has not had the desired effect. A single company has the monopoly for the sale of liquor, as the few small dealers whose license is not yet run out

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do not count for much. From Saturday noon to Monday morning no liquor can be purchased, for the branch offices of the company are closed, and an agent of the company takes his stand in every restaurant licensed to furnish liquor with meals during the week. As an additional measure, the tax on spirits was raised in the beginning of 1896, yet the number of arrests for drunkenness is 2,000 in excess of the preceding year!

"These 2,000 cases can, perhaps, be accounted for. The tariff on foreign wines is very low, in accordance with existing treaties. When the tax on spirits was raised, the importation of cheap wines increased enormously, especially that of *laddevin* (store-wine), a product prepared out of the dregs of better-class wines in wine-producing countries. It has a sweet taste and is very cheap, but it is also very intoxicating. Its consumption may have caused the sudden increase of arrests for drunkenness. But even if we deduct 2,000 cases as due to the use of *laddevin*, the fact remains that, under the Gothenburg system, there are 8,500 arrests for drunkenness instead of the less than 3,000 which Christiania should have according to the ratio of Copenhagen, where no prohibitory laws are enforced. The police of Copenhagen, it should be remembered, are as strict as the police of Christiania."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

PREVENTION OF DUELS BY "ARBITRATION."

PROMPTED by the severe criticism of many of his subjects regarding the prevalence of dueling, Emperor William II. has appointed a committee of officers to suggest proper means for lessening the evil. The committee has finished its work, and the Emperor has based upon its findings certain regulations, contained in an Imperial edict. The Emperor's order bears a similarity to the Anglo-American arbitration treaty, in that, like the treaty, it does not exclude an appeal to arms altogether. Quarrels are to be settled by a council of honor. In case of an appeal, the regular court of honor must busy itself with the quarrel. At the last resort the Emperor is to be appealed to in person. The order stipulates expressly that "the dictates of honor and the customs of rank" must be taken into consideration in prohibiting a combat.

The *Kölnische Zeitung*, Cologne, says:

"As the committee appointed by the Emperor had finished its work, it was very judicious to publish the Imperial rescript without further delay, especially as several duels have taken place of late. The order will allay much restlessness. Every one acknowledges that dueling is not practised much in the army; duels are generally the result of quarrels between citizens and soldiers, especially officers of the reserve. It will be seen that the Emperor has done his duty as the guardian of law and order, for only persons whose political understanding remains infantile will expect that a custom which has the force of early education behind it can be abolished at once. Dueling will, however, become reduced to a minimum."

With a large part of the German public, however, the question is not one of safety, but of class privilege. Officers, officials, medical men, lawyers, civil engineers, artists, the squires, the reputable manufacturers, and literary men of high standing are all in danger of a challenge to mortal combat. Yet the majority of them believe that the duel can not be abolished altogether. On the other hand the men engaged in mercantile pursuits and the majority of journalists are often refused the privilege of a combat by members of the professions just named. The excuse is that business men, if successful, must make use of certain sharp practises which are not consistent with honor, and the journalists are charged with habitual and intentional deviation from the path of truth. It is among these classes that the agitation against the duel is carried on most bitterly. The *Nation*, Berlin, declares that the law must remove such class distinctions. It says:

"No doubt the Imperial edict will much reduce dueling in cases in which both parties are officers. But if one of the persons concerned in such a quarrel is a civilian, the edict will have much less force. The Emperor's order may reduce the evil, but does not get at its root, and the laws of the state and of morality are violated as before. Public opinion must assist the Emperor, and public opinion should be reminded that if a duel is permitted in any one case, its justification will be claimed for many others. Duels will be less frequent now, but the agitation must be continued until it is abolished altogether. The people must not rest because we have, thanks to the action of the Emperor, advanced a step in the right direction. . . . That the law can eradicate the evil, is not likely. Custom must mark it objectionable."

The *Nation* ends its comment by quoting Professor Binding's words: "A monarch possessed of sufficient wisdom and courage to break with the ancient prejudice that an officer who does not, at the last instance, accept a duel is unworthy of his rank, will earn the gratitude of the nation and of a not unimportant number of the officers." The *National Zeitung* thinks the council of honor should have the power to punish the party who has given an insult. The *Vossische Zeitung* wishes special rules in case of a quarrel between an officer and a civilian. The Socialist organs, which repudiate the idea of personal honor on principle, declare that nothing is gained until duelists are executed as murderers. The *Kreuz Zeitung* declares that this is only another instance of Socialist inconsistency, for French Socialists, who are sometimes offered a duel, do not refuse to fight, and the great prophet of German Socialism, Ferdinand Lassalle, was killed in a duel the result of an *affaire d'amour*.

The Imperial order has been discussed much in the English papers, but their comments reveal that the writers are not acquainted with Germany. Thus *The Spectator*, London, says:

"In our opinion, by far his best plan would have been to announce that he would dismiss any party to a duel from the army unless it could be shown that in the case of regimental officers the seconds had called on the colonel, stated shortly the cause of the duel, and had received his leave to fight. This would give the colonel—in the case of colonels and superior officers it might be the general of the division or the commander-in-chief of an army corps—a right of veto over all duels—a veto which he would use to stop duels brought about by tavern brawls. No doubt this plan would involve a certain recognition of dueling. It would, however, stop the worst cases, and would not infringe military feeling on points of honor. Most soldiers would feel that if the colonel vetoed the duel there was no proper excuse for fighting."

The suggestions contained in the above have long been in practise in the Prussian army, and duels between officers are rare. *The Daily Chronicle* alone seems to understand that even an Emperor can not offend with impunity the influential classes of his nation. It says:

"Needless to say, he does not forbid recourse to the sword among military men. He inculcates, however, the Christian duty of accepting the hand of the insulter if offered in reconciliation. But let nobody in Prussia imagine that he can jostle an officer, and then offer him his hand with certain impunity. The hand—not the cheek—is only to be accepted 'so far as the honor of the profession and good manners permit.' The Kaiser's position in the matter, we must recognize in fairness, is a difficult one, and he has probably gone as far as he dared. He could not afford to offend the military class at the very moment when he is engaged in assuring it that it is the one safeguard of the state against the 'revolutionary' tendencies developing among civilians."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

ALEXANDER II. introduced trial by jury in Russia, but the courts dispense with it as much as possible, and seek to abolish it altogether. The reason is not that the authorities wish to curtail the liberties of the people, for the most progressive and enlightened judges are among the opponents of jury trials. They complain that it is difficult to muster an intelligent and impartial jury. The most incredible stories are told of Russian jurymen. Thus, the foreman of a jury declared he would not send a poor fellow to prison because it happened to be his (the juryman's) birthday. Another jury had agreed upon a verdict of guilty when the church bells began to ring. They revised their verdict because a holiday had begun. A burglar was allowed to go free because the man whom he had robbed had refused to lend him money. This, in the opinion of the jury, was a direct incentive to crime.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

A PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDY OF ANARCHISTS.

DR. OLINDO MALOGODI has a cheering message to deliver to society. He has had rare opportunities of studying the genus Anarchist, and finds that he is not nearly so dangerous a being as he is thought to be. This is not because he does not intend to be dangerous, but because he is a dreamer, incapable of carrying out his vast designs. Dr. Malogodi is one of the Lombroso school of criminologists, and he writes on "The Psychology of Anarchist Conspiracies" in *The Westminster Review* (January). Here is the beginning of his analysis of the anarchistic character:

"One of the most prominent characteristics in the psychology of the Anarchist, as well as in that of the conspirator in general, is the extraordinary predominance of the visionary imagination over all other faculties, including that of critical judgment and of reasoning. Moreover, the causes which produce in the midst of our orderly social system the Anarchist type of individual are many and complex; but undoubtedly the prevalence of the imaginative over the critical faculty is the cause which exercises the greatest influence. So true it is that the type of the Anarchist, if not in practise, at least in intellectual characteristics, is to be found not only among delinquents, but very frequently in the highest classes of mankind (humanely speaking), that in which the imaginative faculty is most highly developed—the artist class. Tolstoï, Verlaine, Vallès, Nietszche are, from a certain point of view, the brothers of Henry and Vaillant.

"This hypertrophy of the imaginative faculty, which I have always observed in all the Anarchists with whom I have come into contact (those gifted with remarkable intellectual faculties not excepted), and which in itself constitutes a want of mental equilibrium, is exaggerated by the special conditions of life in which Anarchists find themselves; above all, by the inactivity to which they are condemned."

While the deeds of the Anarchists several years ago in Italy, France, and Spain gave an impression of great activity, yet, we are told, the actual product of their activity was very scanty in comparison with the number of the Anarchists—2,000 in Italy alone, and 1,500 at least in France. The cause of this lack of results is, as intimated above, that "all their psychological energy is inevitably directed toward fermenting visions and dreams in their already unbalanced brains." Dr. Malogodi still further explains the matter as follows:

"Positive psychology has already proved that while the intellectual faculties of reasoning and criticism possess very little expansive force, those of sentiment and imagination, based on simpler elements, on the emotional and pictorial faculties, are enormously contagious. Humanity is exposed to epidemics of sentiment and visions, and to these no epidemic of good sense is to be found as an antidote. Therefore in these anarchical assemblages reciprocal excitation exercises an extraordinary influence, and leads the whole group to such grades of visionary intoxication, to such paroxysms of imagination as not one of the individuals composing the group would singly be capable of experiencing.

"Predominance of the imaginative faculty, inaction, and mutual psychological excitation are the three fundamental elements of the colossal imaginings of anarchical conspirators. And thus, from the gatherings of these generaly half-mad, half-imbecile, half-criminal individuals, from obscure clubs met for drinking and chatting in suburban public-houses, there arises a continuous misty cloud of terribly grandiose plots against society, grotesquely impracticable, perhaps, but beside which the most sensational revelations of the police seem insipid. In the gravest moment (justly considered such) of agitation and anarchical conspiracy in Italy, one of the best painters of the present day, an Anarchist—and harmless as a child—who was *au courant* of all the threads of the dark world of conspiracy, kept me informed of all. It was a question of huge projects which were to continue day after day. Dynamite and the dagger were relegated to a secondary position; the upsetting of trains and explosions were mere child's play in comparison. The idea was to poison the aqueducts of towns, either by poisonous matter or by means of microbes, to call typhus and cholera to the aid of the anarchist Utopia. It was a ghastly exposition, enough to make one shudder even to hear it mysteriously talked about. Yet, to the great indignation of my *confidente*, I only laughed at it and never troubled to warn the police of these infernal plots."

In the second part of his article, the writer goes on to state that the reciprocal equilibrium between imagination and action, between idea and deed, is a psychological law that applies with especial force to "these dreamers and opium-smokers of the social problem." The more monstrous the development of an idea in the mind the more the energy necessary to action becomes diminished. Perhaps, also, the very size of their plans is due to the desire of an excuse for inaction. We quote again:

"Every new, grander, and more terrible project kills the one before it and puts off indefinitely the necessity for action, leaving these cowards in life the comfort of taking their ease and dozing on the pillow of idle dreams. In this mean strife those who succeed in getting out of it, in securing safe posts (on pretext of directing the plot intellectually) are the most intelligent, and those who remain are poor creatures, the exploited of the Utopia, weak-minded, ingenuous, and deluded. Finally, we may note that another token of this prudence in avoiding danger is given by the character more and more assumed by their crimes. Those forms of crime are chosen which offer less exposure to danger, but they are also the most futile—the attempts made on public edifices. These miners of society really end by only undermining a corner of some solitary and deserted palace."

Even those plots that do succeed, Dr. Malogodi says, belong not to the Anarchists, numerous as they are, but to the more limited groups of Fenians or Nihilists, who have more definite aims. The anarchist is an egoist. The very hyperesthesia of their personality that forces them into conflict with society renders them incapable of the self-sacrifice and social subordination necessary to the execution of their plans. The writer concludes:

"Anarchism will continue to live in a small way on small deeds. And the gravest danger of anarchism does not lie in its conspiracies, which always vanish like soap-bubbles, or in the projects of the leaders, who take care to preserve themselves from the dangers of action, but in the possibility that in their associations, in that artificial atmosphere, there may chance to be some individual whose intelligence is too mediocre to criticize, yet who at the same time is capable of action—in short, one of those poor wretches who become at once executors and victims of the talkers, precisely as was the case with Caserio."

ARE GENIUSES LONG-LIVED?

NO, says the popular verdict, based not unreasonably on the idea that the drain on the nervous forces which is attendant upon genius is not conducive to longevity. Yes, says a writer, David Lindsay, in *The Gentleman's Magazine*, basing his answer upon a long array of figures showing the age at death of a large number of the world's most illustrious sons, selected "with strict impartiality," which figures prove that nearly one half of the greatest geniuses of the world have passed the Psalmist's limit of three-score years and ten. We give below his tables, which, it will be observed, include none of the gentler sex:

MILITARY MEN.

Name	Age at death	Name	Age at death
Xenophon	86	Charlemagne	71
Dumouriez	84	Timur	68
Wellington	83	Themistocles	65
Soult	82	Condé	65
Bernadotte	80	Dionysius the Elder	63
Muza Ibn Noseyr	77	Hannibal	63
Blücher	76	Turenne	62
Frederick the Great	74	Sulla	60
Agathocles	72	Massena	58
Genghis-Khan	72	Pyrrhus	54
Tilly	72	Napoleon	51
Marlborough	72	Alexander the Great	32
Marius	72		

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STATESMEN.

Name	Age at death	Name	Age at death
Benjamin Franklin	84	Cicero	63
Talleyrand	84	William the Conqueror	60
Paoli	80	Louis the Eleventh	60
Palmerston	80	Cromwell	59
Lord Burleigh	77	Machiavelli	58
Augustus Cæsar	76	Richelieu	57
Cosmo dei Medici	75	Fox	57
Disraeli	75	Julius Cæsar	55
Chatham	69	Alfred the Great	52
Edward the First	68	Pitt	47
Walpole	68	Mirabeau	42
Washington	67		

SCIENTISTS AND PHILOSOPHERS.

Name	Age at death	Name	Age at death
Humboldt	89	Linnæus	70
Carlyle	85	Leibnitz	70
Newton	84	Huxley	70
Herschel	84	Socrates	68
Plato	82	Arago	67
Buffon	80	Aristotle	62
Kant	79	Cuvier	62
Galileo	78	Hegel	61
Locke	72	Tycho Brahé	55
Epicurus	71	Descartes	53
Copernicus	70	Spinoza	44

LITERARY MEN.

Name	Age at death	Name	Age at death
Sophocles	90	Cervantes	68
Izaak Walton	90	Dryden	68
Voltaire	84	Milton	65
Goethe	83	Sir Walter Scott	61
Victor Hugo	83	Bunyan	60
Hallam	81	Racine	59
Livy	80	Macaulay	59
Corneille	78	Horace	57
Herodotus	76	Dickens	57
Samuel Johnson	75	Dante	56
Euripides	74	Pope	56
Froissart	73	Gibbon	56
Chaucer	72	Shakespeare	52
Thucydides	70	Virgil	51
Petrarch	70	Molière	51
Defoe	70	Schiller	45
Rabelais	70	Burns	37
Wordsworth	77	Byron	36
Æschylus	69	Shelley	30

MUSICIANS.

Name	Age at death	Name	Age at death
Haydn	77	Schumann	41
Händel	75	Weber	39
Spohr	75	Chopin	39
Palestrina	70	Mendelssohn	38
Bach	65	Mozart	35
Beethoven	56	Schubert	25

PAINTERS.

Name	Age at death	Name	Age at death
Titian	99	Rembrandt	63
Michael-angelo	89	Velasquez	61
Turner	76	Holbein	57
Reynolds	68	Vandyck	42
Hogarth	67	Correggio	40
Rubens	63	Raphael	37

REFORMERS.

Name	Age at death	Name	Age at death
Wesley	87	Knox	67
Swedenborg	84	Mahomet	62
Brigham Young	76	Luther	66
Confucius	71	Calvin	54
Erasmus	68	Savonarola	46

INVENTORS AND DISCOVERERS.

Name	Age at death	Name	Age at death
William Harvey	79	George Stephenson	67
Réaumur	74	Arkwright	60
Jenner	74	Robert Fulton	50

Mr. Lindsay makes the following summary of the tables:

At an age of above	80,	17	per cent.	died,	
" "	70 to 80,	28	"	"	
" "	60 to 70,	25	"	"	
" "	50 to 60,	17	"	"	
" "	under 50,	13	"	"	

While, therefore, nearly one half of those whose names appear in the foregoing lists passed the age of seventy, most of their best work, Mr. Lindsay goes on to remark, appeared at a comparatively youthful age. He continues:

"What, then, are the laws that control the age of genius? Why should a Keats die at twenty-four and a Chaucer at seventy-two? Why should philosophers and men who look deeply into the heart of things, and who would naturally be supposed to wear out their vital energy more quickly than other men—why should these be longer-lived than musicians?

"To this latter question there is an answer. It is not until after long years of technical training and brain-working that such men as Leibnitz and Descartes blossom out into all their glory of genius; and there are doubtless many great thinkers even now in our midst who may some day astonish the world by the brilliancy of their teachings—but they may first die. With music it is different. Beethoven, while yet in his early infancy, showed unmistakable signs of his natural abilities; when he was a mere youngster he composed works which, to this day, will stand on their own merits. It is the same with every great musician. Granted that he live to reach early manhood, his fame is secured. And, at the time when all Europe is ringing with his praises, his science-loving brother is toiling in obscurity, not to step forth into the light of popularity for maybe another quarter of a century, or perhaps not at all, for in the mean time, as we have said, he may die.

"It is true that the very greatest masters of all do not usually live out their normal length of days: Napoleon, Cromwell, Shakespeare, Beethoven—none of these passed into old age. But it is hard to define the term 'genius.' If we are to limit it to some score of men, we must then, perhaps, consider that it is incompatible with length of life. If we give the word larger meaning, and honor with it the thousand lesser lights who illumine the page of history, why, then, it would seem to be a healthy thing to be a genius."

CORRESPONDENTS' CORNER.

Bisecting a Plane Angle.

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:—

The article upon the division of angles into equal parts (LITERARY DIGEST, December 5) has led me to believe that you might be interested in the description of a method, which I found while investigating the subject, of trisecting any plane angle, using an ordinary two-foot rule as the instrument.

Referring to figure 1: let the angle *A B C* be the given angle: make *B D* and *B E* each six inches, and join the points *D* and *E* by a straight line.

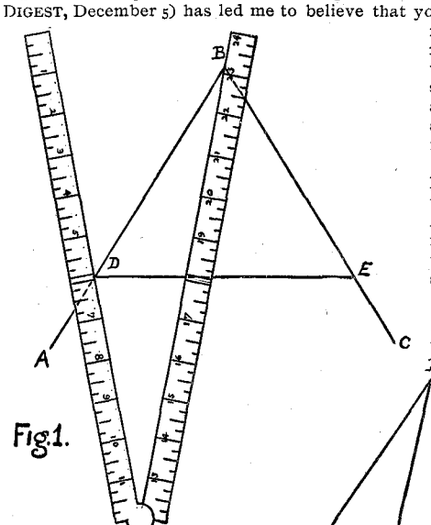

Fig. 1.

Place the inner edge of the rule so that one joint is at *D*, the other joint on the line *D E*, with the edge passing through the point *B*. If the lines from *B* and *D* to the middle joint of the rule be drawn, the result will be as shown in figure 2, and the angle *D B F* will be one third of the angle *B D E*, or, what is the same thing, the angle *A B C*.

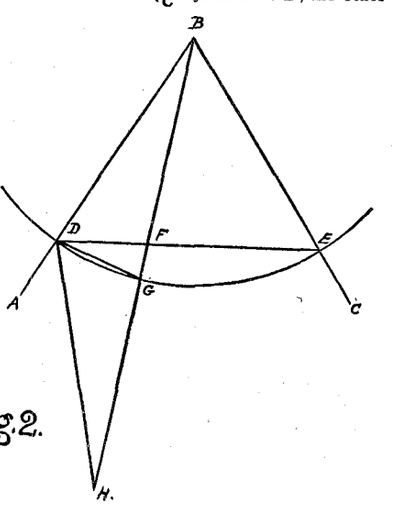

Fig. 2.

This, of course, is not a geometrical construction, but it admits of geometrical proof. [The writer furnishes the demonstration by means of Fig. 2, but we do not care to reproduce it here.—Editor L. D.]

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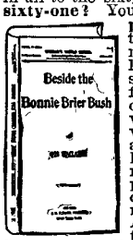

BUSINESS SITUATION.

Bradstreet's reports a falling-off in general trade owing to the heavy fall of snow and the cold weather. *Dun's Review* concludes that it would do more harm than good to exaggerate the improvement, noting that the month has increased the currency balance due this country. The number of business failures for the week has fallen off sharply.

The General Situation.—"January has been a month of disappointment, but of real gain. Nearly everybody had promised himself a land of milk and honey after New Year's, and the slow progress looks like standing still to men in such a state of mind. Moreover, there are multitudes throughout the country who have been taking large ventures in advance of or apart from their regular business because they expected a rise in prices. But prices fail as yet to bring them profit. Wheat has declined severely, cotton has scarcely risen enough to pay brokerage, wool holds steady in spite of enormous buying, woolen goods hardly change in price, iron and its products decline, leather is sluggish, hides are lower, for some shoe manufacturers accept a shade lower prices, the average of railroad stocks is slightly lower than it was December 31, and the advance in trust stocks has been small. To traders in such properties the month has been disappointing. Yet during the past week the record shows that ten iron works have started, and only two have stopped, thirteen woolen works have started, and nine more about ready to start, while three have stopped. Similar things are seen in other industries, and the additional establishments are not starting without some increase in orders received."—*Dun's Review, January 30.*

"Low temperature has stimulated demand in a few retail lines, but jobbers report sales of dry-

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goods, clothing, and farmers' supplies checked. There is a moderate increase in distribution of heavy winter goods, but commercial travelers very generally report buyers are even more conservative than earlier in the month, and that wholesale trading in January, except in lines specified, is smaller than for years. Mercantile collections are interrupted, and the improvement looked for in iron and steel is not in sight."—*Bradstreet's, January 30.*

Decline in Wheat.—"The decline in wheat was over 6 cents, in spite of an official report of yield far below estimates generally accepted, reflects perception of the error of the report, and also of the influence of enormous exports of corn instead of wheat, 80,000,000 bushels in seven months. When two bushels of corn can be had for less than one bushel of wheat, it is largely preferred in European markets, and in January 7,859,127 bushels of corn have gone abroad from Atlantic ports against 5,306,349 last year, while Atlantic exports of wheat and flour have been 6,535,154 bushels against 8,403,765 last year. As the great crop of corn prevents much advance in its price, its outgo affects the demand for wheat, and a heavy liquidation of speculation has occurred, with the price of corn scarcely changing."—*Dun's Review, January 30.*

Wool.—"The heavy business in raw wool within a fortnight continues, and there is still an active demand. Boston sales for three weeks aggregate nearly 30,000,000 pounds, of which more than two thirds is domestic. The London wool sale develops sharp competition between American buyers, and wools suitable for use here are as high as at any time during the December sale. Men's-wear woolens, heavy weights for next fall, are attracting attention, and good orders have been booked. Cotton goods continue depressed, notwithstanding efforts to relieve the situation by reducing heavy stocks of prints on hand."—*Bradstreet's, January 30.*

Bank Clearings.—"Bank clearings at cities throughout the United States show a sharp falling-off from last week, about 8 per cent., but an increase of 7 per cent. compared with the corresponding total one year ago, 2 per cent. compared with the clearings in the fourth week of January, 1895, and 25 per cent. contrasted with the corresponding total in 1894. This week's clearings are 30 per cent. smaller than the like total in 1893, and 20 per cent. smaller than the corresponding aggregate in 1892."—*Bradstreet's, January 30.*

Business Failures.—"The most favorable feature of the business week is the sudden and sharp falling-off in the total number of business failures in the United States, the aggregate being 326 as compared with 429 last week, a decrease of 103. When compared with the corresponding week of 1896, this week's falling-off is 67, but there is an increase of 14 as compared with the like week in 1895. Contrasted with the like period in 1894, there have been 14 fewer failures this week than three years ago."—*Bradstreet's, January 30.*

"Failures in 21 days of January show liabilities of $11,913,637 against $17,836,511 in 1896, $10,685,060 in 1895, and $25,811,840 in 1894. Manufacturing were $4,390,785 against $6,661,129 last year, and trading were $7,206,502 against $10,317,360 last year. Failures for the week have been 331 in the United States against 404 last year, and 57 in Canada against 70 last year."—*Dun's Review, January 30.*

Canadian Trade.—"Toronto jobbers report continued improvement, particularly in dry-goods. Montreal merchants state that bad roads and severe weather have checked business, but with sleighing the outlook is for improvement. The trade outlook in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island is not bright, the depression being intensified by a prospect of tariff changes. Stocks of fish are large and prices low. The lumber cut in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia will be heavy, and Newfoundland will probably fit out for seal fisheries as largely as usual. Bank-clearings at Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton, and Halifax aggregate $18,035,000 this week, 10 per cent. less than last week, and a fractional gain as compared with the week one year ago and with the week two years ago. The total number of business failures throughout the Canadian Dominion this week is 56. Last week the total was 57, and last year it was 63, while in the week two years ago it was 56, and in the corresponding period of 1894 it was 44."—*Bradstreet's, January 30.*

CHESS.

[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

The Pillsbury-Showalter Match.

The day for beginning the contest between Pillsbury and Showalter has not yet been fixed; probably, however, an early date will be chosen. All the games will be carefully reported in these columns.

This match is for $1,000 a side, and the Championship of the United States. The terms of the match are the first seven wins, draws not counting. While Pillsbury, because of his success in Hastings, has a greater reputation than Showalter, yet the Kentuckian has won several matches and

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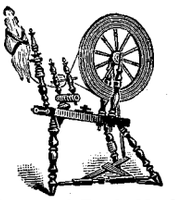

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successfully defended his claim to the title of Champion of the United States against such players as Lipschutz, Kemeny, and Barry. Pillsbury has not shown what he can do in match-play.

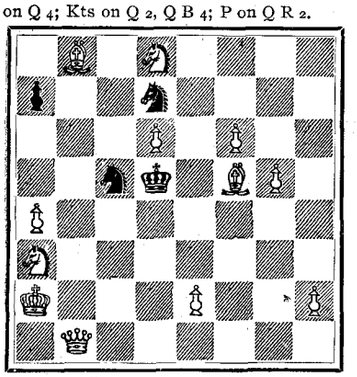
Problem 186.

BY JAN DUBRASKY.

B. G. Laws, one of the greatest authorities on problem-composition, speaks of Dubrasky's problems as "elegant models and delightful examples of the multi-theme style." This problem appeared in *The British Chess Magazine* as a specimen of a composition affording more intellectual enjoyment than is to be found in the study of simpler problems.

Black—Four Pieces.

K on Q 4; Kts on Q 2, Q B 4; P on Q R 2.



White—Twelve Pieces.

K on Q R 2; Q on Q Kt sq; Bs on K B 5, Q Kt 8; Kts on Q 8, Q R 3; Ps on K 2, K B 6, K Kt 5, K R 2, Q 6, Q R 4.

White mates in four moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 182.

This problem, altho called the "Celebrated Indian Problem," is unsound, according to the canon which requires only one key-move. The solution depends upon (1) keeping the Kt pinned; (2) moving the B—B sq; (3) placing R on Q 2 so that K must go to B 5; and thus forcing a mate by R—Q 4 double check. Why this is called the "Indian Problem" we do not know. A celebrated composer, in speaking of the problem or another like it, said: "There is nothing Indian about it; but the author ought to be *scalped* for making it." We have demonstrated the fact that it is almost an impossibility for an unsound problem to escape the keen analysis of our solvers. Those who sent correct solution, and discovered the many key-moves, are M. W. H., University of Virginia; W. G. Donnan, Independence, Ia.; C. F. Putney, Independence, Ia.; F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.; Dr. J. B. Trowbridge, Hayward, Wis.; W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla.; V. Brent, New Orleans; G. A. Humpert, St. Louis; C. W. Cooper, Allegheny, Pa.

No. 180.

Several of our solvers who sent B x Kt as the key-move of 180 can not find any way to stop the mate. Their idea is to follow up with R—Q 4, and then mate by Kt—Q 3. They overlooked the fact that when White moves 2 R—Q 4, Black plays 2 B—B 5 ch, stopping the mate next move.

J. M. Rawlings, Tucson, Ariz., sent correct solution of 179.

Current Events.

Monday, January 25.

In the Senate Mr. Turpie speaks in favor of the Cameron resolution recognizing the independence of the Cuban Republic; a petition for

Something for Literary Digest Readers.

There are some things which must be purchased on faith. Vegetables and Flower Seeds come under such a head. The average buyer can not tell from their appearance whether a lot of seeds are alive or dead, or whether they are embryonic vegetables or flowers. It is therefore of importance to deal with a house of established reputation, and that of W. Atlee Burpee & Co., of Philadelphia is such a one.

They have just issued a catalog written at FORDHOOK FARM, and the illustrations are direct from photographs. It is entirely free from exaggeration and, as the publishers state, "tells the plain truth about seeds."

Handsomely bound, the cover, lithographed in colors, shows on the front a bouquet of the beautiful new large-flowered Violet, reproduced exactly from the original painting by the famous French artist Paul de Longprè. A distinct new Celery, Fordhook Pickling Cucumber, and a new, extra early, long-keeping Onion from Australia, are also shown painted from nature. With each copy is mailed a lithographed leaflet showing six superb new varieties of Sweet Peas in all the beauty of their natural colorings.

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Office of the Superintendent,
C. D. LAW, Supt.

FORT WAYNE, IND., Nov. 3, 1896.

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investigation of the election in Delaware is presented; eulogies of the late ex-Speaker Crisp are delivered. . . . In the House only routine business is transacted. . . . The Senate committee on foreign relations discusses the arbitration treaty. . . . Extremely cold weather prevails in Northern States, causing much suffering. . . . The National Bank of Potsdam, N. Y., closes. . . . The New York State Assembly passes a Senate bill to investigate trusts.

Mr. Balfour in the House of Commons states that there is no probability that the Government will take the initiative for a monetary conference.

Tuesday, January 26.

In the Senate the monetary conference bill is discussed; Mr. Daniel speaks against the Nicaragua Canal bill; Mr. Turpie concludes his speech on recognition of Cuba. . . . The House considers the Indian appropriation bill and passes a pension bill over the President's veto. . . . United States Senators are elected: John C. Spooner (Rep.), Wisconsin; Joseph H. Earle (Dem.), South Carolina; W. A. Harris (Pop.), Kansas; John P. Jones (Silver), Nevada (re-elected). . . . The Ohio supreme court declares the collateral inheritance tax constitutional. . . . An unusual number of fires is reported, the largest in Philadelphia, with damage exceeding $1,250,000. . . . The severe cold continues. . . . The National Association of Manufacturers meets in Philadelphia; the National Board of Trade meets in Washington. . . . Supreme Court Justice Brewer addresses a mass-meeting in favor of the arbitration treaty, Washington.

The House of Commons adopts the reply to the Queen's speech; a motion for an independent inquiry into the condition of afflicted masses of India is rejected.

Wednesday, January 27.

In the Senate during debate on the Nicaragua Canal bill Mr. Sherman suggests the negotiation of a new treaty with Nicaragua; the Military Academy appropriation bill is passed; a memorial from Henry A. Dupont asking for a reopening of his contest for the seat from Delaware is presented. . . . The House passes the immigration restriction bill prepared by a conference committee. . . . The National Association of Manufacturers, at Philadelphia, adopts tariff resolutions; the National Board of Trade, at Washington, adopts resolutions on currency and consular service reform. . . . W. J. Bryan addresses the Texas legislature. . . . Ex-Mayor James Howell, president of the board of trustees of the Brooklyn bridge, dies in Brooklyn.

Emperor William of Germany celebrates his thirty-eighth birthday. . . . Senator Wolcott leaves London for Paris. . . . Herr Frentzel and Herr Krupp are appointed life-members of the Prussian Landtag.

Thursday, January 28.

In the Senate the monetary conference bill is discussed; Mr. Allen offers a resolution of inquiry concerning the power of the Executive to sell the Union Pacific road; extradition treaties with the Orange Free State and the Argentine Republic are ratified. . . . The House passes the Indian appropriation bill and considers the agricultural bill. . . . Controller Eckels addresses the House committee on banking and currency. . . . Lyman J. Gage, President of the First National Bank, Chicago, accepts the Treasury portfolio in McKinley's Cabinet. . . . Justices Fuller and Brewer of the United States Supreme Court are selected by Venezuela for arbitrators in the boundary dispute. . . . Henry Heitfelt, Populist, is elected United States Senator from Idaho to succeed Senator Dubois.

Advices from Dongola show that the Calipha, the dervish leader, is preparing to fight the Anglo-Egyptian expedition. . . . In the House of Commons Mr. Chamberlain moves the appointment of a committee to inquire into South African affairs. . . . Count Muravieff, the Rus-

Good News for Asthma Sufferers.

We are glad to announce that the Kola Plant, recently discovered on the Kongo River, West Africa, has proved itself a sure cure for Asthma, as claimed at the time. We have the testimony of ministers of the gospel, doctors, business men, and farmers, all speaking of the marvelous curative power of this new discovery. Hon. L. G. Clute, of Greeley, Iowa, writes that he could not lie down night or day from Asthma, and the Kola Plant cured him at once. Rev. G. Ellsworth Stump, pastor of the Congregational church at Newell, Iowa, was cured by it of Asthma of twenty years' standing. and many others give similar testimony. To prove to you beyond doubt its wonderful curative power, the Kola Importing Company, No. 1164 Broadway, New York, will send a large case of the Kola Compound free by mail to every reader of THE LITERARY DIGEST who suffers from any form of Asthma. In return they only ask that you tell your neighbors of it when cured yourself. This is very fair, and we advise all sufferers from Asthma to send for the case. It costs you nothing.

A WONDERFUL

Botanical Discovery.

The Kava-Kava Shrub.

A FREE GIFT OF GREAT VALUE

To all Sufferers from Kidney or Bladder Disorders, Bright's Disease, Diabetes, Dropsy, Rheumatism, Gout, Pain in Back, Female Complaints and Irregularities, Blood Impurities and other maladies caused by improper action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs.

A few weeks ago our readers were informed of the discovery of the Kava-Kava Shrub, a new botanical product, of wonderful power in curing certain diseases. The Kava-Kava Shrub, or as botanists call it, *Piper Methysticum*, grows on the banks of the Ganges River, East India, and probably was used for centuries by the natives before its extraordinary properties became known to civilization through Christian missionaries. In this respect it resembles the discovery of quinine from the Peruvian bark, made known by the Indians to the early Jesuit missionaries in South America, and by them brought to civilized man. We have previously quoted Dr. Archibald Hodgson, the great authority on these diseases, in which he describes the sufferings of both Hindus and white missionaries and soldiers on these low, marshy swamps and jungles on the Ganges. He says:

THE KAVA-KAVA SHRUB. (*Piper Methysticum.*)

"Intense tropical heat and moisture acting upon decaying vegetation renders these low grounds on the Ganges most unhealthy districts. Jungle fevers and miasma assail the system. . . . The Blood becomes deranged and the Urine thick and dark-colored. . . . Life hangs in the balance. Then when all modern medical science fails, safety is found in the prompt use of Kava-Kava. A decoction of this wonderful botanical growth relieves the Kidneys, the Urine becomes clearer, the fever abates, and recovery sets in, etc."

Our readers already know of the bringing of this wonderful shrub to Europe and America, and the success of the medicine Alkavis, which contains the active principle of the Kava-Kava Shrub, only in a much more concentrated and powerful form. We are glad to record the numerous extraordinary cures wrought by this great discovery.

Of all the diseases that afflict mankind, diseases of the Kidneys are the most fatal and dangerous, and this being the case, it is but natural that the discovery of the Kava-Kava Shrub, Nature's Positive Specific Cure for Diseases of the Kidneys, is welcomed as a gift to suffering humanity, and indorsed not only by the public, but by the most eminent physicians, both of Europe and America. The fact that Alkavis is sent free for trial to sufferers from these diseases has had a great effect in making its remarkable benefits widely known. One person when cured naturally tells another, and so sufferers everywhere are testifying to the wonderful health-restoring powers of this new botanical product. In the New York *Weekly World* of Nov. 1st, the testimony of Rev. W. B. Moore, D.D., of Washington, D. C., was given, describing his years of suffering from Kidney disease and Rheumatism, and his rapid cure by Alkavis. Rev. Thomas Smith, the Methodist minister at Cobden, Illinois, passed nearly one hundred gravel stones after two weeks' use of Alkavis. Rev. John H. Watson of Sunset, Texas, a minister of the gospel of thirty years' service, was struck down at the post of duty by Kidney disease. After hovering between life and death for two months, and all his doctors having failed, he took Alkavis, and was completely restored to health and strength, and is fulfilling his duties as minister of the gospel. Below we publish the portrait of Mr. R. C. Wood, a prominent attorney of Lowell, Indiana, cured of Rheumatism, Kidney and Bladder disease of ten years' standing by Alkavis. Mr. Wood describes himself as being in constant misery, often compelled to rise ten times during the night on account of weakness of the bladder. He was treated by all his home physicians without the least benefit and finally completely cured in a few weeks by Alkavis. The testimony is undoubted and really wonderful. Many others give similar evidence. Many doctors also testify to the powers of Alkavis in curing almost hopeless cases. Among these none have greater weight than Dr. A. R. Knapp, of Leoti, Kansas, and Dr. Anderson, of Carthage, Mo., whose testimony is particularly valuable from the fact of their great experience in these diseases. Mr. A. S. Colburn, of Waltham, Mass., aged 78, and an intense sufferer for five years, was cured by Alkavis.

Mr. R. C. Wood, Lowell, Ind.

Mrs. James Young, Kent, O

Mrs. James Young, of Kent, Ohio, writes that she had tried six doctors in vain, that she was about to give up in despair, when she found Alkavis, and was promptly cured of Kidney disease, and restored to health. Mrs. Alice Evans, of Baltimore, Md.; Mrs. Mary A. Layman, of Neel, W. Va., twenty years a sufferer; Mrs. Sarah Vunk, Edinboro, Pa.; Mrs. L. E. Copeland, Elk River, Minn.; and many other ladies join in testifying to the wonderful curative powers of Alkavis, in various forms of Kidney and allied diseases, and of other troublesome afflictions peculiar to womanhood. In such cases of disorders peculiar to women, we do not care to publish testimonials at large, but ladies interested therein can obtain full information from a descriptive book which is furnished free by the importers of Alkavis. The good results of using this new botanical discovery in such cases are indeed most remarkable.

The following letter from the well-known minister, Rev. A. C. Darling, of North Constantia, Oswego County, New York, was written after, as he says himself, he had lost confidence in man and medicine, had no sleep or rest, and took Alkavis as a last resort.

North Constantia, Oswego Co., New York.
CHURCH KIDNEY CURE COMPANY:

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(Rev.) A. C. DARLING.

Such testimony as the above makes it very clear that Alkavis is indeed a sure specific cure for these serious diseases. The Church Kidney Cure Company, 418 Fourth Avenue, New York City, are so far the only importers of Alkavis, and they are so sure it will cure that they will send a Large Case of Alkavis by mail prepaid free to Every Reader of THE LITERARY DIGEST who is a Sufferer from any form of Kidney or Bladder disorder, Bright's Disease, Diabetes, Rheumatism, Gout, Dropsy, Cystitis, Gravel, Pain in Back, Female Complaints and Irregularities, Blood Impurities, or other affliction due to improper action of the Kindeys or Urinary Organs. We advise all our readers who are afflicted, to send their names and address to the company and receive the Large Case of Alkavis by mail, prepaid free. It is sent to you entirely free to prove its wonderful curative powers.

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sian Foreign Minister, arrives in Paris and is received with high honors by the President.

Friday, January 29.

The Senate passes the amended monetary conference bill. . . . The House rejects the conference report on the bill incorporating the purchasers of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad; consideration of the agricultural appropriation bill continues. . . . Gen. Russell A. Alger, of Michigan, accepts the portfolio of the War Department in McKinley's Cabinet. . . . Judge G. F. Turner is elected United States Senator from Washington by free-silver Republicans and Populists. . . . The legislature of Oklahoma passes a bill prohibiting gold contracts and abolishing the militia. . . . The governor of Nevada signs a bill making glove contests legal in the State. . . . The Bessemer steel pool is practically dissolved at Pittsburg.

The House of Commons votes to appoint a South African committee of inquiry. . . . It is reported in Madrid that General Ascarraga, Minister of War of Spain, will be appointed Governor-General of Cuba, General Weyler to retain command of the forces on the island. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone leave England for Cannes, France.

Saturday, January 30.

The House alone in session, passes the agricultural appropriation bill without striking out the free-seed provision. . . . The Senate committee on foreign relations decides to report the arbitration treaty with amendments. . . . Secretary Olney and Sir Julian Pauncefote sign a treaty for defining the Alaskan boundary. . . . A receiver is appointed for the Chicago Dime Savings Bank. . . . Judge Hallett, United States circuit court, Denver, sentences for terms of seven, ten, and five years respectively C. H. Dow, former President of the Commercial Bank of that city; S. B. McClurken, teller, and Dr. O. E. Miller, customer and resident of Chicago, to the Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., for wrecking the bank. . . . George B. Roberts, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, dies in Philadelphia.

The famine in India is increasing in intensity; the funds set apart for the sufferers are reported to have been misappropriated. . . . The new Bishop of London is enthroned in St. Paul's Cathedral. . . . Students in Athens seize the University buildings, but are finally compelled to surrender.

Sunday, January 31.

It is reported that a draft of the reforms demanded by the powers in Turkey has at last been presented to the Sultan through Baron Calice, the President at the Ambassadorial conferences; the Sultan is to govern through his ministers and not through the palace functionaries, and the administration of justice is also to be reformed. . . . In the case of Lieutenant Baron von Brusewitz, who killed an artisan in a café at Carlsruhe for a fancied insult, the Emperor has added the penalty of expulsion from the army to the original sentence of three years' imprisonment.

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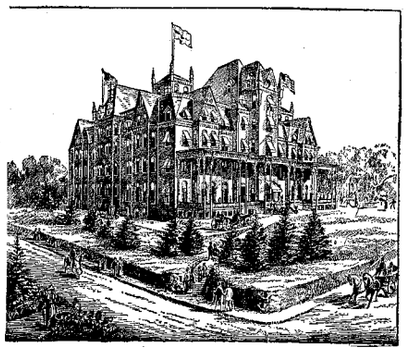
Are you a smart speller? We give $100 away in prizes to those able to make the largest list of words from the word RESPONSIBLE. You can make at least twenty, we believe, and if you can you will get a present any way, and if your list is the largest you will get $40.00 in cash. Here are the rules to follow: Use only words in the English language. Do not use any letters in a word more times than it appears in RESPONSIBLE. Words spelled alike can be used only once. Use any dictionary, and we allow to be counted proper nouns, pronouns, prefixes, suffixes, any legitimate word. This is the way: Responsible, response, rip, sop, see, sin, sip, soil, sob, sole, etc. Use these words. The publisher of THE AMERICAN WOMAN will give away, on April 10, the sum of $100, divided into 24 prizes for the largest lists of words as above. $40 to the person making the largest list; $10 for the second largest; $5 each for the next five largest lists; $3 each for the 4 next largest, and $1 for each of the next 13 largest lists. We want you to know our paper, and it is for this reason we offer these premiums. We make no extra charge for the privilege of entering this word-building contest, but it is necessary to send us 25 cents silver or stamps, for which we will send you our handsome illustrated 28 page magazine for six months, and the very day we receive your remittance we will mail you free, a beautiful picture, entitled "The Forest Sanctuary," 17x24 inches, a charming present. This offer is the greatest you have ever had made to you. Send your list at once. If you win one of the prizes your name will be published in our May issue. Address THE AMERICAN WOMAN, 119 and 121 Nassau St. New York City, N. Y.



HUNTERSTON,
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WHAT CONSUMPTION REALLY IS.

The Causes that Produce It—Why it has always been Fatal and How It is now Successfully Treated.

After centuries of false doctrine and fatal treatment, the leading medical authorities of the world, five years ago, adopted the "Germ Theory of Consumption," which is now the established doctrine of medical science.

Under the old theory that consumption arose from a taint in the patient's constitution or poison in his blood, cure was impossible. Every one attacked with it went on from bad to worse. Its fatality was so inevitable that its advent came to be regarded as equivalent to the hand of death.

The cause of the utter failure to cure was made plain by the knowledge of the falseness of the theory on which all previous medical treatment was based.

We now know consumption to be a *local* disease of the lungs caused by the *Tubercle Bacillus*, a poisonous, living germ or parasite of the air. These germs are breathed into the lungs and produce by their ravages all the sufferings the patient endures. They cause not only the cough, expectorations, spitting of blood, and shortness of breath, but also, through deranging the general health, produce hectic fever, night sweats, and loss of flesh and strength.

It is an axiom of medical science that all local diseases require *local treatment* for their cure; *consumption is a local disease* of the lungs alone, which can only be cured by local treatment. *It is a germ disease in the lungs*, and the clinical experience of all the great lights of medicine teaches that no germ disease was ever cured without specific germicides *applied directly to the germs and germ-infected parts.*

No local treatment of any kind can be applied to the lungs, except the medicines be reduced to a condition of vapor or gas and inhaled into them with the air they breathe; therefore I say, no stomach treatment, and no hypodermic nostrum' is worth a straw for the cure of any form of lung disease.

To cure any form of bronchial, catarrhal, or asthmatic disease, we must act by placing a healing antiseptic directly on the seat of the disease—on the inner linings of the breathing organs.

To cure consumption we have to kill and expell the germs, and arrest and heal their ravages in the air-tubes and cells of the lungs. Medicated air and medicines in a state of vapor, when breathed, act directly on the very seat of the disease in the lungs. If the inhaled medicines are properly compounded and properly administered, the speedy arrest of the disease surely follows. If the injury to the lung be very great, the progress of cure may not be rapid; but it is as certain in consumption as cure is in other serious diseases.

We have now germicidal inhalants, which are easily and safely introduced into the lungs, under which no form of germ life can live. These I am using, with great success in all forms of lung disease — asthma, bronchitis, catarrh, chronic pneumonia, and consumption. Under them the lungs are as curable as any other organ of the body. Their discovery and introduction into medicine by me, I am firmly convinced, begin a new era of hope for the afflicted.

(*To be Continued.*)

ROBERT HUNTER, M.D.,
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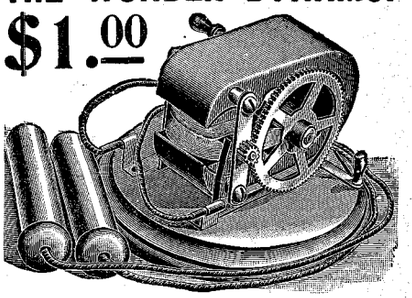

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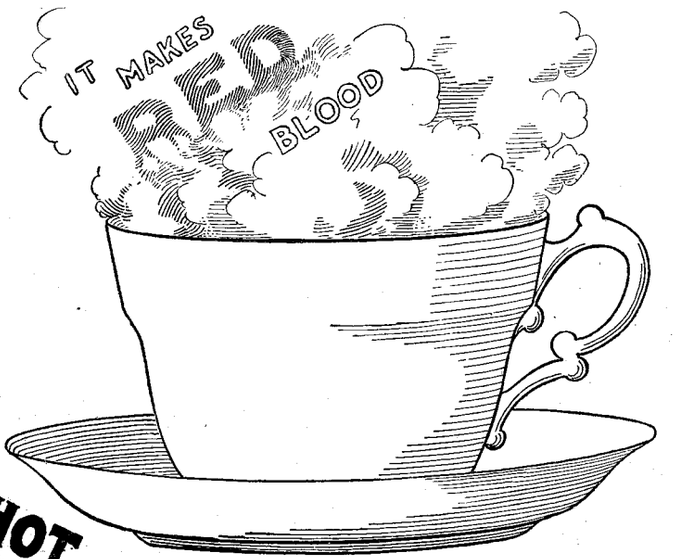

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